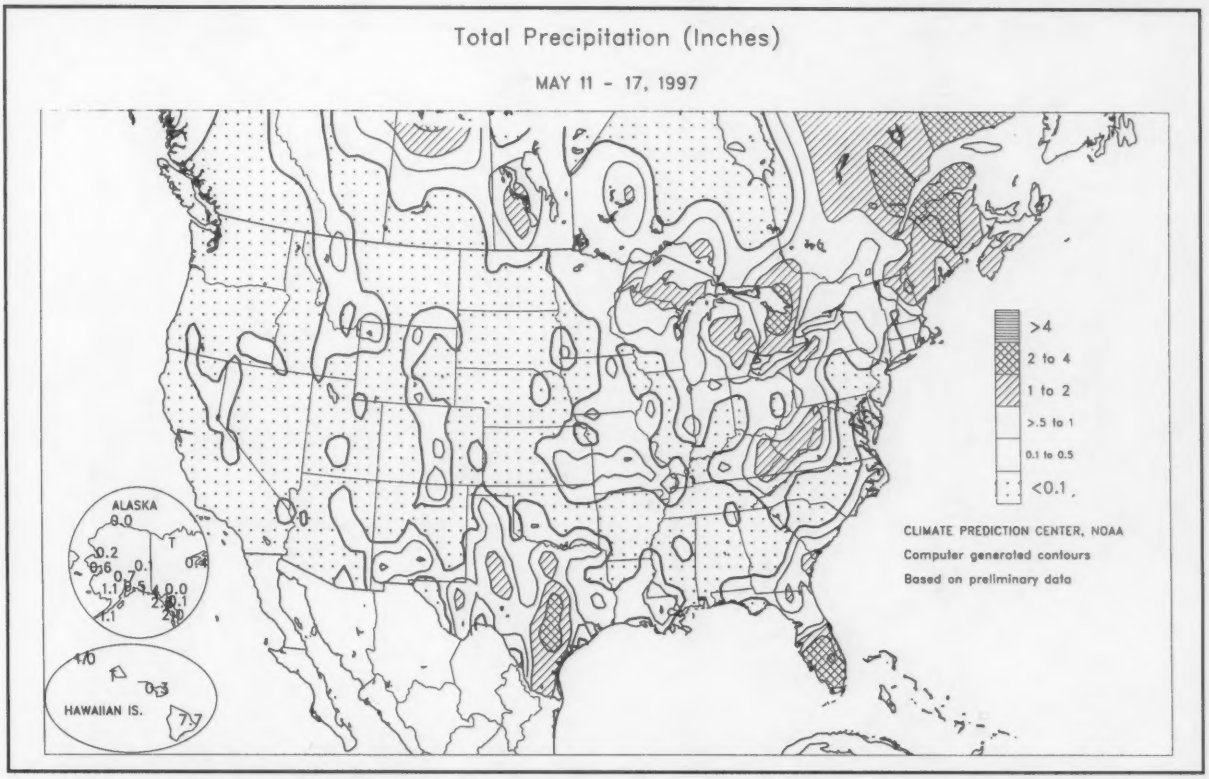
Volume 84, No. 20 May 20, 1997

WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

May 11 - 17, 1997

A gradual drying trend prevailed nearly nationwide, reducing topsoil moisture in many areas. Moisture shortages became especially apparent from **Montana** to the **central High Plains** due to very warm weather late in the week. Farther east, cool weather persisted for a sixth consecutive week east of a line from the **upper Midwest** to **Texas**. Weekly temperatures averaged more than 10°F below normal from **Minnesota** to **Michigan**. On May 13, a later-than-normal freeze struck the **upper Midwest**; 3 days later, widespread frost and scattered sub-freezing temperatures reached the **Corn Belt**. In contrast, weekly temperatures averaged 3 to 14°F above normal in the **West**.

(Continued on page 3)

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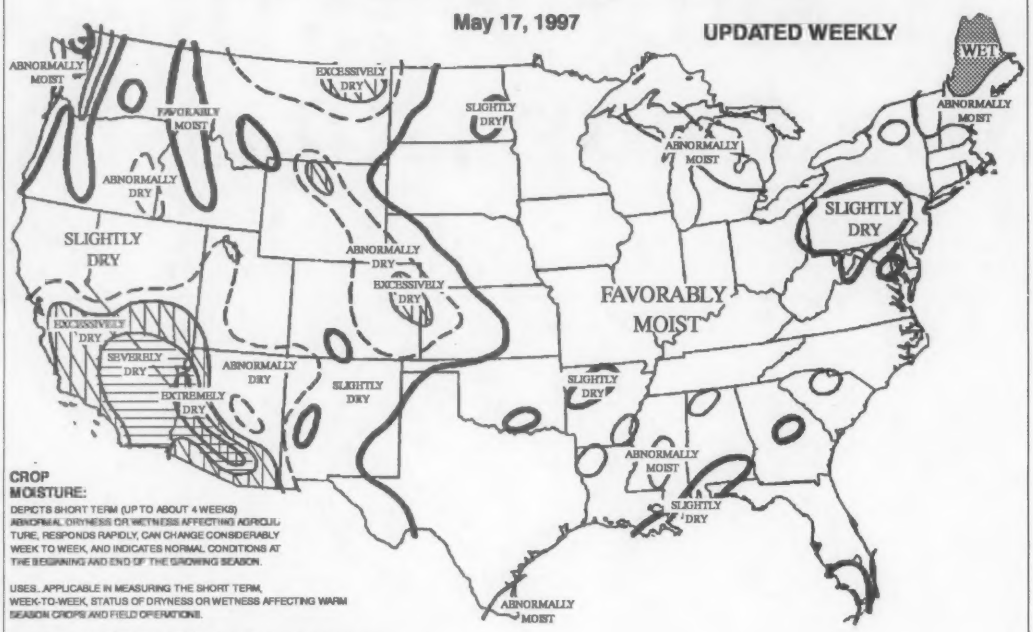
CROP MOISTURE

(SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE)

May 17, 1997 **UPDATED WEEKLY**



CROP MOISTURE:

DEPICTS SHORT TERM (UP TO ABOUT 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK, AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT TERM, WEEK-TO-WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS.

LIMITATIONS...MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A 5-FOOT PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 50 F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

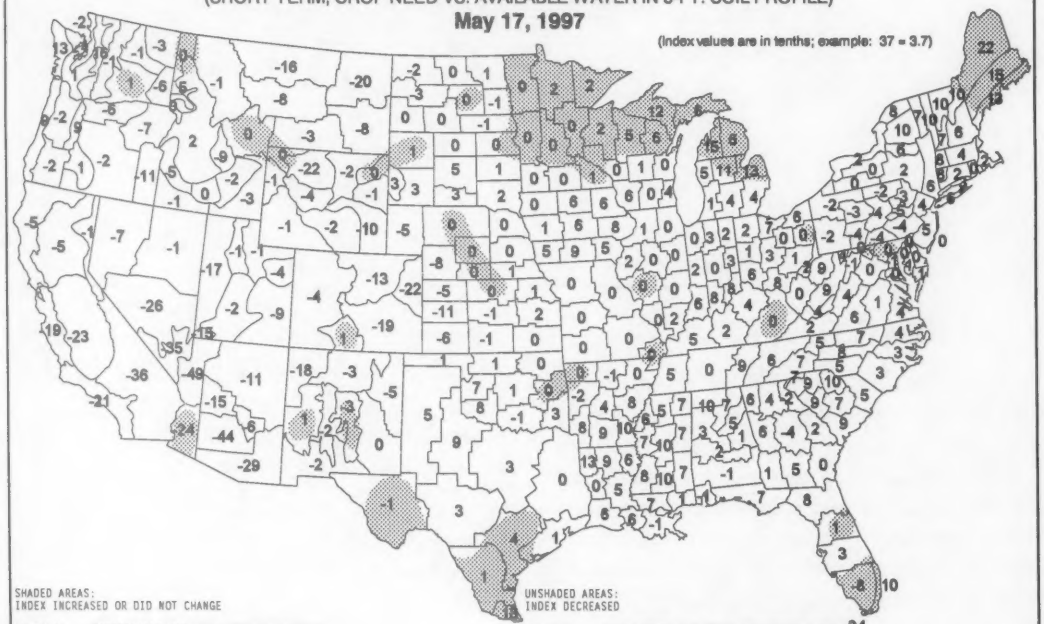
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY Based on preliminary reports

CROP MOISTURE INDEX

(SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE)

May 17, 1997

(index values are in tenths; example: 37 = 3.7)



SHADED AREAS: INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE

ABOVE 3	EXCESSIVELY WET; SOME FIELDS FLOODED
2 TO 3	TOO WET; SOME STANDING WATER
1 TO 2	SOME FIELDS TOO WET; PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL
0 TO 1	MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CROP NEEDS
0 TO -1	PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED
-1 TO -2	SOME IMPROVEMENT BUT STILL ABNORMALLY DRY
-2 TO -3	DRYNESS EASED BUT FIELDS STILL EXCESSIVELY DRY
-3 TO -4	SEVERE DRYNESS CONTINUES; MORE RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED
BELOW -4	NOT ENOUGH RAIN; STILL EXTREMELY DRY

UNSHADED AREAS: INDEX DECREASED

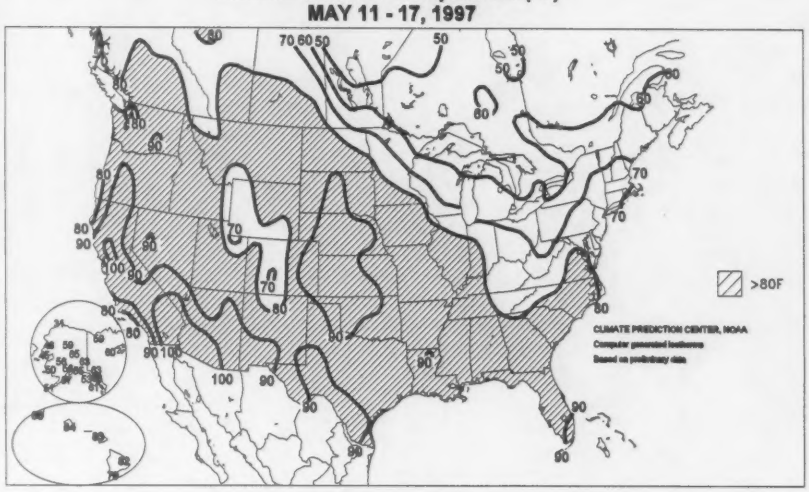
ABOVE 3	SOME DRYING BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET
2 TO 3	MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED; WORK DELAYED
1 TO 2	FAVORABLE EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS
0 TO 1	FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK
0 TO -1	TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT; GERMINATION SLOW
-1 TO -2	ABNORMALLY DRY; PROSPECTS DETERIORATING
-2 TO -3	EXCESSIVELY DRY; YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED
-3 TO -4	POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DRYNESS
BELOW -4	EXTREMELY DRY; MOST CROPS RUINED

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY Based on preliminary reports

(Continued from front cover)

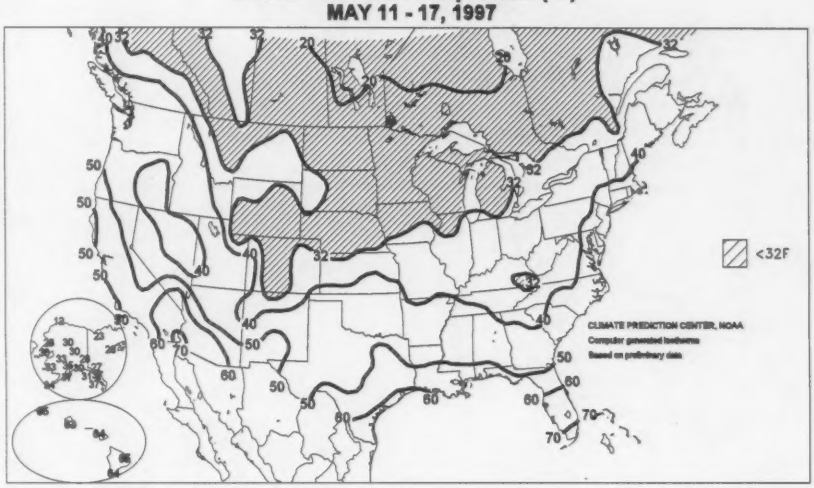
On Sunday, record warmth prevailed along the **West Coast**, while frost dotted the **East**. Daily-record highs in the **Northwest** included 96°F in **Vancouver, WA** and 97°F in **Medford, OR**. Meanwhile, **Lynchburg, VA** tallied a daily-record low of 31°F. Two days later, another cold airmass reached the **Plains** and **Midwest**, resulting in a widespread freeze from **Minnesota** and **Wisconsin** to **Nebraska**. Among the nearly three dozen daily records were lows of 24°F in **Sioux Falls, SD**, 25°F in **Mason City, IA**, and 26°F in **Norfolk, NE**. The latest spring freezes on record occurred in **Omaha, NE** (formerly on May 11, 1946) and **Gilbert, AR** (May 12, 1954). In **Nebraska**, **Lincoln** (27°F) logged their latest sub-30°F reading.

Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)
MAY 11 - 17, 1997



After a short absence, record warmth returned on Wednesday to the **Northwest**, where **Wenatchee, WA** registered 93°F. A day later, another late-season chill arrived across the **North Central States**, holding maximum temperatures in Michigan to 44°F in **Grand Rapids** and **Lansing**. On Friday, another three dozen daily-record lows were established, including 27°F in **Madison, WI**, 29°F in **Grand Rapids, MI**, and 32°F in **Indianapolis, IN**. A minimum of 30°F in **Bristol, TN** was their lowest so late in the spring (formerly 30°F on May 9, 1947). Temperatures briefly dipped below the freezing mark in areas as far south as **Vichy/Rolla, MO** (31°F) and **Frankfort, KY** (31°F). In many locations from **Iowa** to **Kentucky**, climatological records indicate less than a 10-percent (%) chance of a freeze on or after May 16.

Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)
MAY 11 - 17, 1997



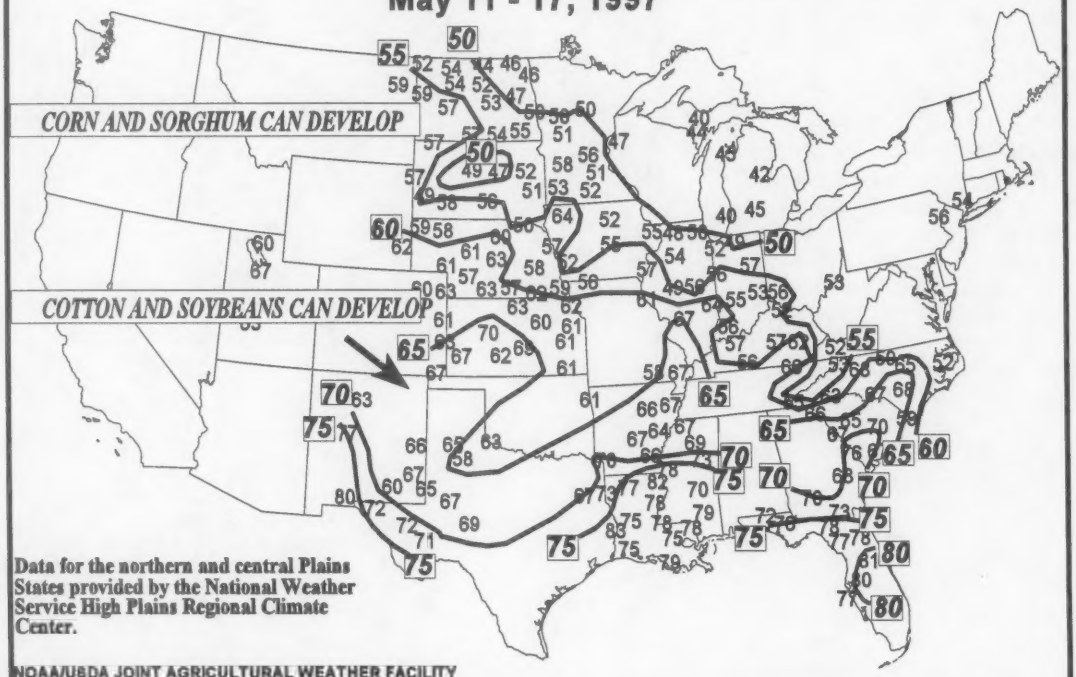
Some snow accumulated during the week across the **Great Lakes States**. As much as 8 inches fell on May 11-12 near **Bayfield, WI** and **Ironwood, MI**. Weekly totals of 0.1 inch in **Rochester, MN** and 8.9 inches in **Marquette, MI** padded all-time seasonal records (84.7 and 272.0 inches, respectively). Measurable snow fell on 5 consecutive days in **Marquette** (May 11-16), a May record. On May 14-15, 3.3 inches blanketed **Houghton Lake, MI**, setting their monthly snowfall record.

On Friday in **Sioux City, IA**, temperatures rebounded incredibly from a daily-record low of 33°F to a daily-record high of 91°F. Meanwhile, **Hill City, KS** notched their first of two daily-record highs (94 and 96°F). Farther west, **Phoenix, AZ** registered 106°F. On Saturday, very warm conditions cloaked the **Western and Central States**, resulting in the last of the week's nearly four dozen daily-record highs. Triple-digit heat gripped **Sacramento, CA** (101°F). Highs reached 90°F as far north as **Bismarck, ND**.

Texas, **New England**, **southern Florida**, and the **Great Lakes States** were among the few areas to receive substantial moisture during the week. Daily-rainfall records were set in **Melbourne, FL** (3.27 inches on Monday) and **Caribou, ME** (1.67 inches on Friday). However, year-to-date precipitation slipped further behind normal values in several locations, including **Helena, MT** (1.67 inches, 46% of normal), **Goodland, KS** (2.08 inches, 41%), **Moline, IL** (5.32 inches, 58%), and **Harrisburg, PA** (8.49 inches, 58%).

Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare)

May 11 - 17, 1997

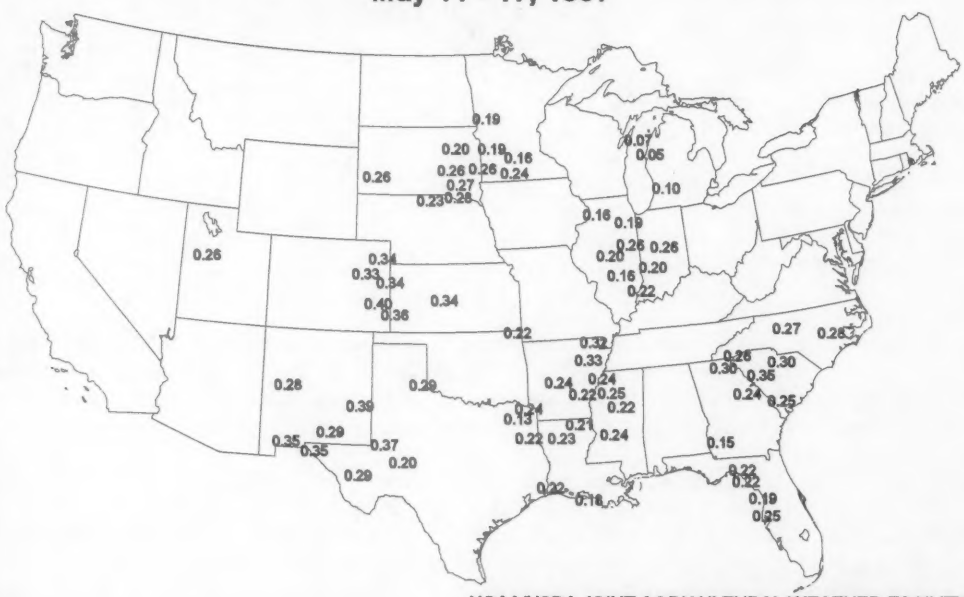


Data for the northern and central Plains States provided by the National Weather Service High Plains Regional Climate Center.

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data

Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)

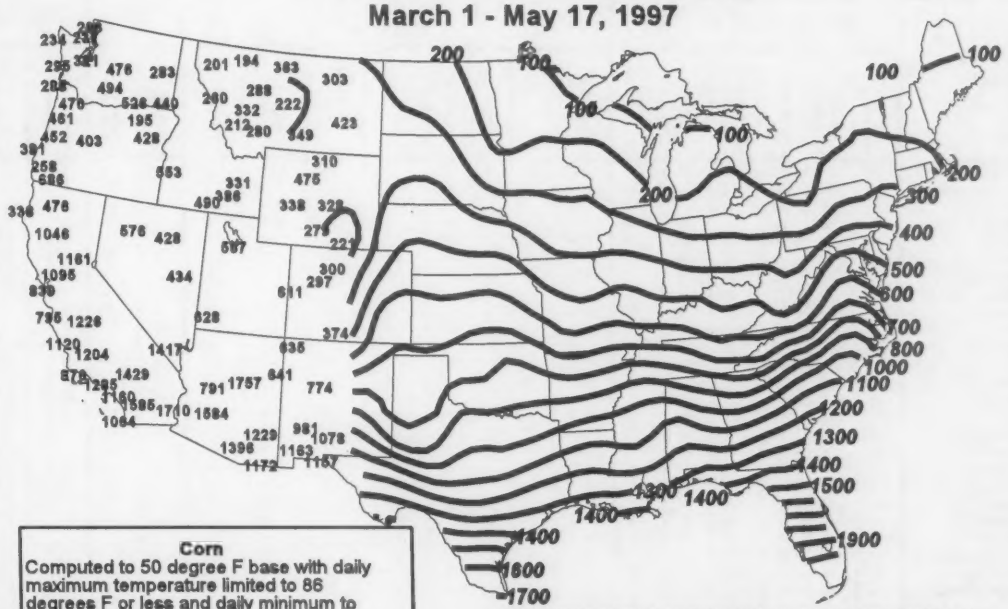
May 11 - 17, 1997



NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data

Total Growing Degree Days

March 1 - May 17, 1997



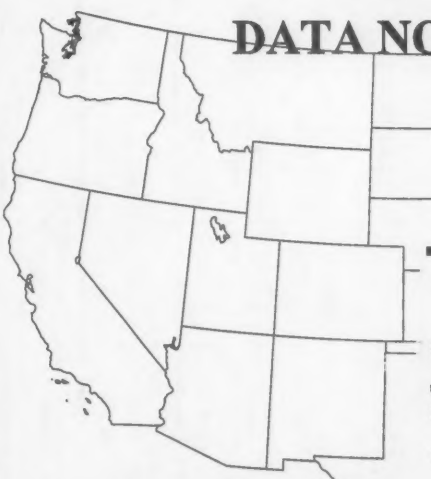
Corn
Computed to 50 degree F base with daily maximum temperature limited to 86 degrees F or less and daily minimum to 50 degrees F or more.

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
Based on preliminary data

Growing Degree Days Departure from Normal

March 1 - May 17, 1997

DATA NOT AVAILABLE*



* The total growing degree data are correct. However, there is a problem with the file that contains the normals. We are working on making the needed changes.

GDD Departures from Normal for Selected Cites

Data Provided by the High Plains Regional Climate Center

State	Location	GDD Departures Mar 1-May 17	GDD Departures Apr 15-May 17
KS	Garden City	+89	-12
	Witchita	+71	-12
NE	North Platte	+150	+29
	Grand Island	+66	-27
	Lincoln	+71	-29
SD	Brookings	-8	-46
	Pierre	+118	+35
	Watertown	-59	-49
ND	Bismarck	+32	+6
	Fargo	-7	-8
	Grand Forks	-54	-54

National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 17, 1997

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL	BIRMINGHAM	78	48	83	43	63	-6	0.00	-1.12	0.00	9.71	70	20.83	88	–	–	0	0	0	0
	HUNTSVILLE	78	48	85	43	63	-5	0.00	-1.16	0.00	11.78	82	22.52	92	86	29	0	0	0	0
	MOBILE	82	60	86	52	71	-3	0.36	-0.96	0.36	11.59	83	22.15	92	88	30	0	0	1	0
	MONTGOMERY	81	52	84	46	67	-4	0.00	-0.89	0.00	7.95	63	20.90	91	90	32	0	0	0	0
AK	ANCHORAGE	53	40	56	35	46	0	0.54	0.37	0.21	0.77	43	1.40	42	92	60	0	0	4	0
	BARROW	27	20	31	12	24	5	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.17	39	0.25	37	89	84	0	7	0	0
	FAIRBANKS	59	36	65	29	48	0	0.05	-0.08	0.05	0.14	14	0.73	39	93	35	0	2	1	0
	JUNEAU	55	43	63	37	49	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0	-	-
	KODIAK	52	40	57	37	46	3	0.04	-1.22	0.02	14.57	123	31.48	129	87	48	0	0	2	0
	NOME	41	33	45	30	37	2	0.57	0.43	0.27	1.56	99	3.44	116	97	77	0	4	5	0
AZ	FLAGSTAFF	76	41	79	33	59	9	0.00	-0.17	0.00	1.88	41	6.11	70	–	–	0	0	0	0
	PHOENIX	101	78	106	74	89	11	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.24	20	1.70	67	34	13	7	0	0	0
	PRESCOTT	88	54	90	47	71	14	0.02	-0.11	0.02	1.07	36	4.14	66	–	–	4	0	1	0
	TUCSON	96	70	99	64	82	9	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.64	56	2.25	84	43	16	6	0	0	0
	YUMA	103	76	105	71	89	11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	20	0.55	57	44	17	7	0	0	0
AR	FORT SMITH	80	50	86	44	65	-3	0.01	-1.20	0.01	8.53	79	15.57	101	90	37	0	0	1	0
	LITTLE ROCK	80	51	88	45	66	-4	0.05	-1.15	0.05	16.34	125	23.61	119	–	–	0	0	1	0
CA	BAKERSFIELD	93	64	98	59	78	8	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.21	12	2.99	81	58	18	6	0	0	0
	EUREKA	68	52	73	48	60	3	0.00	-0.34	0.00	6.25	68	17.63	89	90	50	0	0	0	0
	FRESNO	94	64	97	63	79	11	0.00	-0.07	0.00	0.12	4	3.50	51	63	19	7	0	0	0
	LOS ANGELES	72	61	74	59	67	4	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0	4.21	55	92	58	0	0	0	0
	REDDING	93	60	98	57	77	11	0.00	-0.30	0.00	4.79	66	14.50	82	–	–	5	0	0	0
	SACRAMMCCLELL	94	62	100	57	78	–	0.00	-9.99	0.00	0.89	–	8.27	-999	–	–	7	0	0	0
	SAN DIEGO	71	64	76	62	68	4	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.28	10	3.54	59	84	60	0	0	0	0
	SAN FRANCISCO	78	58	93	51	68	10	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.55	12	8.35	69	84	35	2	0	0	0
CO	ALAMOSA	72	34	76	31	53	4	0.09	-0.05	0.06	0.62	48	1.99	109	79	21	0	2	2	0
	COLORADO	70	41	80	33	56	1	0.35	-0.14	0.15	3.99	123	4.42	112	–	–	0	0	6	0
	DENVER	75	44	87	36	60	3	0.03	-0.52	0.03	1.51	36	2.18	41	–	–	0	0	1	0
	GRAND JUNCTION	85	49	89	46	67	6	0.00	-0.19	0.00	2.87	136	3.57	113	58	21	0	0	0	0
	PUEBLO	79	40	90	33	60	-1	0.00	-0.28	0.00	2.55	110	3.14	107	75	22	1	0	0	0
CT	BRIDGEPORT	66	49	69	45	57	-1	0.09	-0.82	0.05	10.10	104	15.20	95	–	–	0	0	3	0
	HARTFORD	68	47	77	43	57	-2	0.16	-0.76	0.12	8.26	86	12.86	78	78	33	0	0	2	0
DC	WASHINGTON	72	48	81	44	60	-6	0.04	-0.79	0.03	7.22	92	12.22	92	72	32	0	0	2	0
DE	WILMINGTON	68	47	77	43	58	-4	0.04	-0.84	0.04	5.31	59	8.97	60	–	–	0	0	1	0
FL	DAYTONA BEACH	81	64	87	60	73	-2	0.44	-0.29	0.44	6.06	90	8.54	68	–	–	0	0	1	0
	JACKSONVILLE	81	58	86	48	70	-4	0.78	0.02	0.77	7.26	93	11.43	77	95	44	0	0	2	1
	KEY WEST	86	77	88	73	81	1	0.04	-0.71	0.04	4.57	90	8.90	100	84	67	0	0	1	0
	MIAMI	86	73	89	71	80	1	4.34	3.00	2.57	12.23	150	15.46	126	88	59	0	0	2	2
	ORLANDO	83	65	87	61	74	-3	0.96	0.22	0.93	8.46	129	11.96	101	91	55	0	0	2	1
	TAMPA	81	69	86	66	75	-2	0.98	0.30	0.93	12.93	234	14.54	137	87	66	0	0	2	1
	VALPARAISO/EGLIN	83	60	86	54	71	-1	0.40	-0.48	0.33	9.32	71	21.44	100	–	–	0	0	2	0
	WEST PALM BEACH	84	71	88	67	77	0	1.57	0.09	1.27	9.86	108	18.55	128	92	61	0	0	3	1
GA	ATHENS	76	46	81	40	61	-7	0.00	-0.99	0.00	6.93	59	17.79	86	84	34	0	0	0	0
	ATLANTA	75	49	80	46	62	-7	0.00	-0.99	0.00	7.45	60	20.09	91	89	33	0	0	0	0
	AUGUSTA	80	46	84	40	63	-8	0.00	-0.86	0.00	6.74	68	15.24	83	86	31	0	0	0	0
	COLUMBUS	81	53	86	48	67	-5	0.06	-0.88	0.06	9.93	80	20.04	92	–	–	0	0	1	0
	MACON	80	47	85	41	64	-8	0.00	-0.80	0.00	5.16	51	15.63	80	91	30	0	0	0	0
	SAVANNAH	78	53	84	44	66	-7	0.53	-0.37	0.53	5.97	67	11.37	72	92	46	0	0	1	1
	HILO	78	67	82	65	73	-1	7.70	5.39	3.50	34.83	98	44.79	81	94	74	0	0	7	4
	HONOLULU	82	68	84	63	75	-2	0.01	-0.26	0.01	6.07	137	13.94	137	78	54	0	0	1	0
	KAHULUI	81	68	83	64	74	-1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	80	58	0	0	-	-
	LIHUE	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	-	-	-	-
ID	BOISE	66	57	89	52	72	15	0.00	-0.25	0.00	2.40	76	5.28	93	58	22	0	0	0	0
	LEWISTON	82	58	85	50	69	11	0.00	-0.30	0.00	4.48	154	8.11	159	–	–	0	0	0	0
	POCATELLO	80	43	85	37	62	9	0.04	-0.26	0.04	1.96	61	3.93	76	71	22	0	0	1	0
IL	CHICAGO/O'HARE	61	41	72	33	51	-7	0.08	-0.66	0.03	4.85	57	10.43	95	80	46	0	0	3	0
	MOLINE	66	43	84	31	54	-6	0.15	-0.81	0.10	5.32	58	10.81	90	–	–	0	1	2	0
	PEORIA	67	42	85	33	55	-7	0.05	-0.78	0.05	4.71	54	10.97	94	86	40	0	0	1	0
	ROCKFORD	62	39	73	29	50	-8	0.28	-0.53	0.14	5.27	65	9.23	88	–	–	0	1	5	0
	SPRINGFIELD	71	44	88	33	57	-6	0.11	-0.72	0.04	4.26	48	8.35	68	–	–	0	0	3	0
IN	EVANSVILLE	69	43	79	34	56	-9	0.00	-1.10	0.00	12.83	113	19.80	115	78	32	0	0	0	0
	FORT WAYNE	63	40	74	34	52	-8	0.30	-0.47	0.23	6.22	78	11.98	100	80	40	0	0	3	0
	INDIANAPOLIS	66	42	79	32	54	-8	0.07	-0.84	0.02	7.94	82	15.35	106	76	32	0	1	4	0
	SOUTH BEND	59	39	69	34	49	-10	0.29	-0.43	0.14	4.73	54	9.53	74	–	–	0	0	4	0
IA	BURLINGTON	66	43	85	36	54	-7	0.08	-0.77	0.04	5.22	62	11.27	104	–	–	0	0	3	0
	CEDAR RAPIDS	65	38	81	31	51	-9	0.19	-0.63	0.09	5.52	74	9.20	97	–	–	0	1	4	0
	DES MOINES	67	41	82	32	54	-7	0.09	-0.84	0.03	7.71	97	8.62	87	74	30	0	1	4	0
	DUBUQUE	63	38	76	31	50	-8	0.02	-0.94	0.01	6.42	72	10.20	89	81	44	0	1	2	0
	SIOUX CITY	72	37	91	25	54	-7	0.09	-0.74	0.09	3.85	62	4.79	64	73	27	2	1	1	0
	WATERLOO	66	38	84	31	52	-8	0.26	-0.66	0.22	7.14	92	8.88	92	–	–	0	2	3	0
KS	CONCORDIA	76	45	87	35	60	-2	0.00	-0.97	0.00	3.27	49	4.81	60	70	29	0	0	0	0
	DODGE CITY	80	47	93	40	64	0	0.30	-0.39	0.30	2.32	44	3.54	56	77	28	1	0	1	0
	GOODLAND	79	41	93	34	60	1	0.00	-0.80	0.00	1.03	24	2.08	41	65	20	1	0	0	0
	TOPEKA	75	46	86	35	60	-4	0.03	-0.95	0.03	5.93	76	8.80	90	70	29	0	0	1	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 17, 1997

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	WICHITA	79	49	91	44	64	-2	0.00	-0.97	0.00	5.72	75	8.24	85	70	29	1	0	0	0
KY	JACKSON	67	42	75	35	55	-9	0.52	-0.53	0.40	12.65	112	18.61	99	–	–	0	0	5	0
	LEXINGTON	64	41	73	33	53	-11	0.27	-0.75	0.08	17.70	165	25.69	153	86	42	0	0	5	0
	LOUISVILLE	70	48	78	37	58	-7	0.09	-0.98	0.04	21.67	189	'30.33	172	78	34	0	0	3	0
	PADUCAH	73	44	85	36	59	-8	0.31	-0.82	0.31	16.74	132	24.67	124	–	–	0	0	1	0
LA	BATON ROUGE	82	61	86	54	71	-3	0.56	-0.56	0.42	15.25	118	28.89	123	–	–	0	0	2	0
	LAKE CHARLES	82	63	87	59	73	-2	0.03	-1.27	0.03	11.57	120	24.83	140	92	51	0	0	1	0
	NEW ORLEANS	82	64	86	59	73	-2	0.49	-0.51	0.47	7.46	63	20.02	87	86	33	0	0	2	0
	SHREVEPORT	81	55	87	45	68	-4	0.06	-1.24	0.06	22.42	202	34.98	179	92	41	0	0	1	0
ME	CARIBOU	57	39	65	34	48	-2	2.48	1.78	1.67	7.01	107	12.84	118	94	55	0	0	7	1
	PORTLAND	62	48	69	41	54	1	0.67	-0.15	0.37	10.68	109	15.72	94	85	48	0	0	4	0
MD	BALTIMORE	71	46	80	41	58	-4	0.01	-0.83	0.01	8.91	105	13.98	96	–	–	0	0	1	0
MA	BOSTON	68	49	76	46	58	1	0.44	-0.30	0.26	8.65	95	12.15	75	88	43	0	0	4	0
	WORCESTER	63	44	73	40	54	-1	0.28	-0.71	0.09	10.85	108	15.91	91	–	–	0	0	4	0
MI	ALPENA	50	34	56	27	42	-9	0.85	0.24	0.53	5.98	103	12.12	139	94	58	0	1	5	1
	GRAND RAPIDS	55	35	67	29	45	-12	0.36	-0.33	0.21	4.66	61	11.39	104	89	52	0	2	3	0
	HOUGHTON LAKE	50	31	60	28	41	-13	1.16	0.58	0.50	5.25	94	9.52	115	93	57	0	5	7	1
	LANSING	55	32	67	28	43	-13	0.88	0.04	0.35	5.78	86	10.82	116	–	–	0	4	4	0
	MARQUETTE	45	31	61	28	38	-12	1.42	0.75	0.35	8.38	120	15.98	146	98	66	0	6	6	0
	MUSKEGON	50	35	60	29	43	-13	0.44	-0.15	0.21	4.72	69	10.00	93	88	58	0	1	4	0
MN	DULUTH	47	30	57	22	39	-12	0.23	-0.44	0.15	2.59	45	4.09	53	92	56	0	4	4	0
	INT'L FALLS	48	31	60	22	40	-12	0.13	-0.40	0.08	3.49	92	4.40	83	87	56	0	3	2	0
	MINNEAPOLIS	60	37	78	31	49	-9	0.19	-0.57	0.11	3.17	52	4.98	63	71	33	0	1	3	0
	ROCHESTER	61	33	81	28	47	-9	0.09	-0.68	0.08	5.35	85	7.79	99	87	37	0	5	2	0
	ST. CLOUD	59	33	77	24	46	-10	0.09	-0.60	0.07	2.43	48	4.40	66	75	35	0	3	2	0
MS	JACKSON	82	53	86	46	67	-4	0.00	-1.28	0.00	10.82	74	22.00	88	90	31	0	0	0	0
	MERIDIAN	82	51	87	44	66	-4	0.00	-1.02	0.00	12.12	82	22.70	89	94	29	0	0	0	0
	TUPELO	77	48	84	43	62	-8	0.08	-1.25	0.07	14.32	98	25.03	103	–	–	0	0	2	0
MO	COLUMBIA	70	45	84	37	57	-5	0.21	-0.89	0.08	5.66	60	12.78	101	78	33	0	0	5	0
	KANSAS CITY	72	44	87	36	58	-5	0.01	-1.14	0.01	7.05	85	10.35	99	73	30	0	0	1	0
	SAINT LOUIS	72	48	87	40	60	-6	0.11	-0.80	0.06	6.44	70	13.21	100	75	30	0	0	3	0
	SPRINGFIELD	72	44	84	38	58	-6	0.11	-0.97	0.05	8.87	86	13.98	100	79	32	0	0	3	0
MT	BILLINGS	75	48	85	41	62	7	0.00	-0.59	0.00	2.04	47	3.01	51	56	23	0	0	0	0
	BUTTE	74	38	79	30	55	9	0.00	-0.41	0.00	3.19	122	5.33	151	–	–	0	2	0	0
	GLASGOW	73	42	85	34	57	3	0.04	-0.36	0.04	2.32	118	2.67	103	66	21	0	0	1	0
	GREAT FALLS	76	39	83	31	57	5	0.00	-0.57	0.00	2.63	69	3.07	58	–	–	0	2	0	0
	KALISPELL	75	43	79	36	59	8	0.02	-0.39	0.02	3.61	120	6.65	118	77	27	0	0	1	0
	MILES CITY	78	45	87	37	61	4	0.04	-0.46	0.04	2.02	65	2.32	56	–	–	0	0	1	0
	MISSOULA	78	46	83	37	62	11	0.00	-0.40	0.00	3.44	121	5.88	120	73	25	0	0	0	0
NE	GRAND ISLAND	75	40	92	32	58	-3	0.00	-0.86	0.00	3.07	48	4.14	55	71	22	2	1	0	0
	LINCOLN	74	40	91	27	57	-4	0.02	-0.86	0.02	5.55	80	6.48	79	–	–	1	1	1	0
	NORFOLK	72	39	91	26	56	-5	0.03	-0.78	0.03	3.61	60	4.59	63	74	28	1	1	1	0
	NORTH PLATTE	77	35	90	27	56	-1	0.00	-0.78	0.00	0.24	5	0.91	16	78	24	1	4	0	0
	OMAHA	70	42	88	32	56	-6	0.06	-0.98	0.06	4.54	64	5.70	66	71	30	0	1	1	0
	SCOTTSBLUFF	76	39	89	32	58	2	0.00	-0.63	0.00	4.11	100	4.72	93	–	–	0	1	0	0
	VALENTINE	73	35	90	29	54	-3	0.00	-0.73	0.00	3.82	87	4.33	86	75	23	1	4	0	0
NV	ELY	79	39	82	36	59	9	0.18	-0.10	0.12	1.26	49	3.15	79	60	14	0	0	2	0
	LAS VEGAS	98	74	101	71	86	13	0.00	-0.06	0.00	0.04	5	0.24	14	26	12	7	0	0	0
	RENO	84	47	87	45	65	9	0.10	-0.07	0.10	0.34	23	4.35	123	69	20	0	0	1	0
	WINNEMUCCA	86	44	89	40	65	10	0.00	-0.19	0.00	1.32	63	2.98	86	64	16	0	0	0	0
NH	CONCORD	66	42	77	33	54	-1	0.19	-0.53	0.10	7.65	104	13.08	105	–	–	0	0	3	0
NJ	NEWARK	69	49	77	44	59	-3	0.05	-0.91	0.05	9.97	99	15.82	95	–	–	0	0	1	0
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	81	56	86	53	69	5	0.01	-0.10	0.01	1.77	126	2.44	106	58	17	0	0	1	0
NY	ALBANY	64	44	76	39	54	-3	0.12	-0.65	0.04	7.40	98	9.76	79	81	39	0	0	4	0
	BINGHAMTON	57	40	67	37	49	-6	0.19	-0.56	0.09	6.72	87	9.59	77	89	61	0	0	5	0
	BUFFALO	55	41	61	37	48	-8	0.72	0.02	0.24	7.98	110	15.19	124	90	52	0	0	6	0
	ROCHESTER	57	40	64	38	49	-8	0.29	-0.32	0.12	6.15	97	10.68	101	–	–	0	0	4	0
	SYRACUSE	60	43	65	39	51	-5	0.50	-0.23	0.16	6.26	80	9.69	78	87	47	0	0	6	0
NC	ASHEVILLE	70	37	77	32	54	-9	0.01	-1.12	0.01	11.37	93	21.02	102	–	–	0	1	1	0
	CHARLOTTE	76	48	80	42	62	-5	0.09	-0.78	0.09	8.85	97	16.21	97	71	30	0	0	1	0
	GREENSBORO	72	43	77	37	58	-6	0.00	-0.92	0.00	12.53	145	18.32	121	79	32	0	0	0	0
	HATTERAS	71	58	76	52	65	-2	0.92	0.01	0.92	10.95	110	18.44	95	83	55	0	0	1	1
	RALEIGH	76	45	83	36	61	-6	0.11	-0.78	0.10	9.72	115	15.67	100	84	37	0	0	2	0
	WILMINGTON	77	54	83	44	66	-3	0.56	-0.34	0.29	6.71	70	13.56	73	–	–	0	0	2	0
ND	BISMARCK	69	40	90	28	55	0	0.00	-0.48	0.00	4.52	127	5.94	133	72	25	1	1	0	0
	DICKINSON	70	39	84	28	54	1	0.01	-0.56	0.01	4.31	111	5.29	115	–	–	0	2	1	0
	FARGO	62	35	84	28	48	-7	0.03	-0.52	0.03	5.52	133	6.15	116	75	28	0	2	1	0
	GRAND FORKS	58	36	78	32	47	-7	0.19	-0.26	0.14	3.26	98	4.15	92	–	–	0	1	3	0
	JAMESTOWN	66	37	88	26	51	-3	0.14	-0.26	0.06	3.36	101	4.42	100	–	–	0	2	3	0
	WILLISTON	71	36	86	27	54	0	0.00	-0.44	0.00	1.31	44	1.74	44	69	24	0	2	0	0
OH	AKRON-CANTON	61	41	66	35	51	-7	0.28	-0.57	0.20	8.31	74	9.30	72	86	40	0	0	4	0
	CINCINNATI	66	40	75	32	53	-9	0.02	-0.96	0.02	10.63	103	15.15	97	85	36	0	1	1	0
	CLEVELAND	60	42	64	37	51	-8	0.31	-0.47	0.17	8.97	88	11.67	96	86	47	0	0	6	0
	COLUMBUS	65	43	75	33	54	-7	0.39	-0.50	0.28	7.77	90	11.39	86	78	35	0	0	3	0
	DAYTON	65	43	77	36	54	-7	0.18	-0.70	0.16	8.24	92	12.33	93	75	36	0	0	2	0
	MANSFIELD	60	40	67	35	50	-9	0.42	-0.57	0.29	8.24	89	12.17	91	–	–	0	0	4	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 17, 1997

STATES AND STATIONS		TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
																	TEMP, °F		PRECIP.	
		AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL, IN., SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
	TOLEDO	61	40	67	34	50	-8	0.64	0.00	0.28	6.11	86	12.72	120	77	44	0	0	5	0
	YOUNGSTOWN	60	40	64	36	50	-7	0.32	-0.47	0.17	6.31	78	7.89	83	79	41	0	0	4	0
OK	OKLAHOMA CITY	80	54	89	46	67	-1	0.02	-1.18	0.02	6.54	80	9.15	84	82	36	0	0	1	0
	TULSA	80	54	90	47	67	-2	0.10	-1.19	0.08	6.87	87	10.53	77	77	32	1	0	2	0
OR	ASTORIA	71	51	86	47	61	9	0.01	-0.68	0.01	22.98	171	39.12	126	90	57	0	0	1	0
	BURNS	61	44	84	38	63	13	0.60	0.38	–	1.86	87	4.70	120	75	23	0	0	1	0
	EUGENE	79	49	84	44	64	9	0.00	-0.50	0.00	10.53	106	18.53	79	86	31	0	0	0	0
	MEDFORD	89	55	97	52	72	14	0.00	-0.23	0.00	2.95	82	7.48	91	80	23	4	0	0	0
	PENDLETON	83	54	87	47	68	11	0.00	-0.22	0.00	2.36	84	3.78	69	72	27	0	0	0	0
	PORTLAND	82	56	88	53	69	12	0.00	-0.47	0.00	11.18	157	19.96	122	76	24	0	0	0	0
	SALEM	82	53	91	46	67	13	0.00	-0.43	0.00	10.96	143	22.11	122	–	–	1	0	0	0
PA	ALLENTOWN	66	43	77	39	55	-5	0.02	-0.94	0.02	6.80	75	10.78	71	82	37	0	0	1	0
	ERIE	57	41	62	36	49	-7	0.60	-0.16	0.20	10.41	129	15.71	125	89	53	0	0	5	0
	MIDDLETOWN	69	48	78	41	58	-3	0.09	-0.86	0.07	5.02	57	8.49	58	–	–	0	0	2	0
	PHILADELPHIA	69	48	77	45	58	-4	0.06	-0.79	0.06	8.80	98	14.27	94	77	39	0	0	1	0
	PITTSBURGH	62	43	67	37	52	-7	0.26	-0.55	0.16	6.52	77	9.59	72	84	35	0	0	3	0
	SCRANTON	63	43	73	38	53	-5	0.09	-0.73	0.02	5.37	72	7.97	68	76	39	0	0	5	0
	WILLIAMSPORT	65	43	73	38	54	-5	0.06	-0.80	0.04	5.25	62	7.87	57	84	37	0	0	2	0
RI	PROVIDENCE	65	47	72	45	56	0	0.44	-0.41	0.31	9.22	90	15.33	86	83	43	0	0	3	0
SC	BEAUFORT	78	56	84	49	67	-6	0.76	-0.09	0.76	10.26	116	14.86	92	–	–	0	0	1	1
	CHARLESTON	78	55	84	49	67	-6	0.60	-0.26	0.60	10.33	116	15.22	97	86	38	0	0	1	1
	COLUMBIA	80	50	84	41	65	-6	0.00	-0.81	0.00	6.46	84	15.59	84	77	27	0	0	0	0
	GREENVILLE	76	46	82	41	61	-7	0.00	-0.99	0.00	8.19	71	19.06	95	75	25	0	0	0	0
SD	ABERDEEN	65	36	86	27	51	-6	0.02	-0.61	0.01	2.75	62	4.97	88	80	30	0	3	2	0
	HURON	67	38	88	30	52	-5	0.01	-0.63	0.01	3.81	73	5.15	82	78	33	0	1	1	0
	RAPID CITY	71	40	85	35	55	1	0.02	-0.57	0.02	6.58	153	7.44	143	67	28	0	0	1	0
	SIOUX FALLS	65	33	85	24	49	-9	0.00	-0.68	0.00	5.28	92	7.06	102	84	34	0	3	0	0
TN	BRISTOL	68	35	75	30	52	-11	0.17	-0.71	0.13	10.58	116	18.85	118	–	–	0	1	2	0
	CHATTANOOGA	75	46	81	41	61	-8	0.11	-0.90	0.08	11.78	92	23.15	103	87	29	0	0	3	0
	KNOXVILLE	72	43	78	37	57	-8	0.13	-0.81	0.13	12.22	110	22.30	116	85	33	0	0	1	0
	MEMPHIS	78	52	86	46	65	-6	0.08	-1.07	0.08	20.73	151	32.72	160	–	–	0	0	1	0
	NASHVILLE	73	44	82	38	58	-9	0.04	-1.09	0.04	12.43	104	19.52	101	82	33	0	0	1	0
TX	ABILENE	78	56	86	46	67	-5	0.12	-0.55	0.08	5.02	104	8.60	123	89	47	0	0	2	0
	AMARILLO	77	51	87	46	64	-1	0.77	0.23	0.58	7.25	236	8.35	199	82	35	0	0	3	1
	AUSTIN	80	61	84	54	70	-5	1.14	0.04	0.85	10.14	145	15.10	139	90	58	0	0	4	1
	BEAUMONT	82	64	86	60	73	-2	0.13	-1.17	0.06	9.85	101	20.48	114	–	–	0	0	4	0
	BROWNSVILLE	84	68	88	65	76	-4	0.11	-0.56	0.04	12.47	344	12.50	216	97	41	0	0	5	0
	CORPUS CHRISTI	82	67	92	64	74	-3	1.33	0.58	0.94	13.60	311	14.98	187	97	43	1	0	4	1
	DEL RIO	83	62	89	58	72	-5	0.60	0.13	0.59	7.35	193	9.59	181	93	43	0	0	2	1
	EL PASO	87	60	93	54	74	2	0.02	-0.04	0.02	1.15	177	1.86	127	66	28	3	0	1	0
	FORT WORTH	79	57	87	46	68	-3	0.47	-0.77	0.47	10.63	110	18.30	132	90	52	0	0	1	0
	GALVESTON	78	70	81	65	74	-1	0.84	-0.16	0.82	18.38	285	25.35	212	–	–	0	0	2	1
	HOUSTON	83	62	86	59	72	-2	0.87	-0.32	0.75	18.46	186	26.13	166	95	51	0	0	4	1
	LUBBOCK	78	56	87	51	67	-2	0.76	0.24	0.46	7.91	265	9.48	235	84	42	0	0	4	0
	MIDLAND	82	58	93	47	69	-3	0.17	-0.35	0.08	2.66	110	4.55	132	90	35	1	0	5	0
	SAN ANGELO	79	53	88	43	66	-8	1.09	0.40	0.92	8.96	167	11.84	196	95	49	0	0	2	1
	SAN ANTONIO	83	60	88	52	72	-3	1.82	0.66	1.40	9.31	149	12.03	123	92	51	0	0	3	1
	VICTORIA	81	64	86	59	73	-4	1.17	0.16	0.57	28.33	454	33.77	324	97	53	0	0	4	1
	WACO	80	57	85	47	69	-5	0.51	-0.55	0.48	11.77	146	22.09	186	98	57	0	0	3	0
	WICHITA FALLS	79	56	88	50	67	-3	0.02	-0.91	0.02	5.64	76	8.86	90	86	36	0	0	1	0
UT	SALT LAKE CITY	84	55	88	49	70	11	0.00	-0.43	0.00	3.29	84	7.19	98	57	19	0	0	0	0
VT	BURLINGTON	60	43	64	37	52	-4	0.19	-0.51	0.07	5.97	90	8.85	88	82	42	0	0	3	0
VA	LYNCHBURG	69	37	75	31	53	-11	0.36	-0.54	0.28	8.79	101	15.46	106	87	34	0	1	3	0
	NORFOLK	73	50	81	45	62	-4	0.20	-0.67	0.18	6.51	74	11.39	71	75	38	0	0	2	0
	RICHMOND	75	46	83	40	60	-5	0.11	-0.77	0.08	7.75	90	13.39	89	79	29	0	0	2	0
	ROANOKE	68	42	79	39	55	-8	0.49	-0.42	0.29	8.40	72	11.95	82	76	40	0	0	4	0
	WASH/DULLES	70	43	79	35	56	-5	0.02	-0.89	0.02	7.50	89	11.17	80	77	31	0	0	1	0
WA	HANFORD	90	60	94	50	75	–	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.03	90	2.79	109	44	17	5	0	0	0
	OLYMPIA	78	48	85	43	63	10	0.00	-0.48	0.00	17.36	183	31.34	135	–	–	0	0	0	0
	QUILLAYUTE	70	46	86	41	58	7	0.02	-1.24	0.02	34.14	154	60.87	124	92	43	0	0	1	0
	SEATTLE-TACOMA	75	53	80	51	64	10	0.02	-0.37	0.02	13.28	194	22.30	138	83	40	0	0	1	0
	SPOKANE	79	53	82	48	66	12	0.00	-0.33	0.00	5.22	152	8.29	120	68	27	0	0	0	0
	YAKIMA	86	50	89	41	68	11	0.00	-0.11	0.00	0.89	66	2.23	68	72	22	0	0	0	0
WV	BECKLEY	61	37	69	33	49	-10	0.55	-0.36	0.29	10.47	117	15.00	101	83	46	0	0	4	0
	CHARLESTON	66	41	70	34	53	-10	0.47	-0.44	0.17	13.31	146	16.58	110	88	38	0	0	4	0
	ELKINS	60	34	70	29	47	-10	0.82	-0.11	0.29	12.13	123	16.26	102	–	–	0	1	4	0
	HUNTINGTON	65	42	71	33	54	-9	0.71	-0.25	0.31	11.75	124	15.33	99	91	38	0	0	4	0
WI	EAU CLAIRE	59	34	73	27	47	-10	0.27	-0.58	0.21	3.46	53	5.26	64	–	–	0	3	3	0
	GREEN BAY	53	34	71	29	44	-11	0.36	-0.27	0.15	5.11	86	7.70	95	96	62	0	3	5	0
	MADISON	60	37	70	27	48	-10	0.11	-0.61	0.11	5.07	72	8.49	91	89	44	0	2	1	0
	MILWAUKEE	54	39	72	34	47	-7	0.24	-0.39	0.17	3.83	49	7.80	72	–	–	0	0	3	0
WY	CASPER	71	35	81	25	53	1	0.02	-0.48	0.02	2.26	61	3.36	70	74	26	0	2	1	0
	CHEYENNE	68	38	80	28	53	2	0.22	-0.33	0.16	2.41	66	3.12	70	68	27	0	2	2	0
	LANDER	72	43	80	30	58	5	0.00	-0.54	0.00	2.72	80	3.31	59	57	22	0	1	0	0
	SHERIDAN	72	40	81	30	56	4	0.00	-0.54	0.00	2.45	62	3.36	63	69	27	0	1	0	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Note: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations have been incomplete.

National Agricultural Summary

May 12 - 18, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

Planting progressed rapidly as farmers across the United States took advantage of drier weather. Nevertheless, a late-week storm slowed fieldwork and crop development as it brought very low temperatures, showers, and some snow to the northern Plains, Corn Belt, Ohio Valley, and New England. Localities as far south as Kentucky recorded freezing temperatures well beyond their normal "last freeze date." Growers reported little or no freeze damage to barely emerged crops, but germination was hindered. Widely fluctuating temperatures and little precipitation exacerbated already dry soils in the central and northern Plains. Locally heavy thunderstorms slowed fieldwork in Texas and southern Florida. In the Southwest, crop planting and development conditions were ideal as the area recorded the fourth straight week of above-normal temperatures.

Winter wheat: Nationwide, condition of the winter wheat crop rated mostly fair to good. Colorado, Montana, and Nebraska reported significant declines in their winter wheat conditions due to lack of precipitation. Declining soil moisture was a concern for continued crop development in Kansas. By week's end, 49 percent (%) of the winter wheat crop was headed, equaling 1996, but just behind the 5-year average of 52%. Winter wheat harvest progressed in central Texas as weather allowed. Harvest started in Georgia.

Corn: Corn planting in the 17 major corn-producing States advanced to 88% complete, well ahead of 61% in 1996 and the average of 67%. Drier soils in South Dakota allowed corn growers to plant 41% of the State's crop by week's end. Farmers in Missouri, Nebraska, and Wisconsin also made rapid progress. This is the earliest date in the past 9 years that corn planting in Minnesota passed the 90% mark. Varying amounts of frost in the major producing States hampered development of the slowly emerging crop. In Iowa, corn planting was 18 days ahead of average, but emergence was 3 days behind average. Farmers in Illinois and Indiana used rotary hoe on corn fields to aid emergence and activate herbicides.

Soybeans: As farmers finished planting corn, they immediately turned to planting soybeans. Planting progressed to 46% complete for the Nation, compared with the 14% of a year ago and the average of 26%. Illinois growers planted 32% of the State's crop, 42 percentage points ahead of average. Planting in Ohio was more than a week ahead of normal. Soybeans in Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska were also planted at a very brisk pace.

Cotton: Cotton growers caught up to the normal planting pace, with 65% of the crop in the ground. Planting in Texas remained just behind the average, but slowly accelerated as soils warmed and dried. Delta and Southeast cotton growers made substantial planting progress, although growers in drier areas waited for more precipitation to plant. In North Carolina, many cotton farmers recovered from a slow start, planting 30% of the State's cotton during the week, yet the State average remained behind normal. Farmers replanted some early fields in Georgia and Alabama after weeks of dry soils and cold weather. Cotton planting was virtually complete in California and Arizona, where above-normal temperatures provided favorable growing conditions.

Rice: Rice planting neared an end, with 91% of the crop in the ground, compared with 82% in 1996 and the average of 78%. California growers planted 40% of the State's crop, and were 45% ahead of the normal pace. Planting in Texas remained behind normal as rain along the Upper Coast continued to slow operations. Emergence of the rice crop was slightly ahead of average. The crop rated mostly good, with only Arkansas and Louisianna reporting percentages of their crops in the very poor or poor categories. Growers in Arkansas flushed and applied fertilizers to fields.

Other Small Grains: Planting of spring cereals proceeded rapidly since drier soils in North and South Dakota allowed farmers access to fields. For the Nation, spring wheat planting advanced to 59% complete, 11% behind average. Spring wheat planting neared completion in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Barley planting was 59% complete, ahead of 48% last year, but still behind the average of 72%. Below-normal temperatures and late planting kept spring wheat and barley emergence well behind normal. Oat planting at the national level advanced 15 points from last week as both North and South Dakota growers planted one-third of their States' acreages. Forty-nine percent of the oat crop emerged by week's end, 4 points ahead of last year, but 9 points behind the average. Ohio oat emergence was a week ahead of normal.

Other Crops: Peanut planting progress neared normal for the 8 major peanut-producing States as growers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia planted large portions of their States' acreages. Planting lagged significantly behind normal only in North Carolina. Thirty-six percent of the sorghum crop was planted, compared with 34% in 1996 and average of 36%. Planting began in earnest in Mississippi, Missouri, and Nebraska, where farmers planted over 20% of the States' sorghum. Planting remained well behind normal in Oklahoma and Texas.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 18, 1997

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	100	98	99	97
CA	99	99	99	98
CO	9	4	6	14
GA	100	99	99	99
ID	1	0	0	2
IL	37	9	14	40
IN	30	10	21	27
KS	56	25	56	61
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	50	30	40	48
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	1	0	1	10
NC	100	95	95	94
OH	1	0	8	7
OK	95	78	99	95
OR	19	0	18	20
SD	0	0	0	1
TX	80	66	89	85
WA	5	0	2	11
ALL	49	34	49	52

These 19 States produced 92% of the 1996 winter wheat crop.

Soybeans Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	22	12	33	28
AR	25	15	29	18
GA	20	10	21	21
IL	67	35	5	25
IN	54	31	4	28
IA	53	12	19	35
KS	35	10	12	14
KY	16	3	3	11
LA	52	26	58	35
MI	13	6	4	18
MN	57	19	13	34
MS	62	36	74	41
MO	32	9	9	14
NE	42	5	13	23
NC	21	13	18	22
OH	55	39	0	33
SC	19	11	17	15
SD	14	1	12	19
TN	11	4	11	10
ALL	46	20	14	26

These 19 States produced 94% of the 1996 soybean crop.

Corn Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	95	84	93	77
GA	98	95	98	99
IL	95	86	55	64
IN	86	71	13	57
IA	94	78	86	73
KS	90	75	95	81
KY	74	56	48	69
MI	62	49	22	49
MN	92	78	61	69
MO	94	71	83	60
NE	94	70	82	73
NC	98	95	98	96
OH	90	82	9	62
PA	60	45	33	46
SD	59	18	46	49
TX	93	81	96	97
WI	78	50	36	53
ALL	88	71	61	67

These 17 States produced 90% of the 1996 corn crop.

Cotton Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	83	60	83	82
AZ	97	95	96	96
AR	86	40	81	72
CA	99	98	97	97
GA	71	53	77	78
LA	90	70	97	92
MS	89	34	96	84
MO	85	46	52	66
NM	83	70	84	82
NC	65	35	82	78
OK	22	1	20	24
SC	81	63	88	82
TN	90	41	76	73
TX	38	27	35	42
ALL	65	44	64	65

These 14 States produced 99% of the 1996 cotton crop.

Sorghum Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	89	79	82	75
CO	8	1	34	15
IL	19	4	0	10
KS	20	12	15	13
LA	75	66	90	76
MS	94	70	87	76
MO	43	17	18	27
NE	27	5	7	16
NM	12	1	4	14
OK	8	6	33	23
SD	5	0	6	9
TX	60	56	65	72
ALL	36	28	34	36

These 12 States produced 99% of the 1996 sorghum crop.

Oats Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	100	98	100	91
MI	89	87	65	82
MN	83	81	83	87
NE	100	98	100	99
ND	47	14	20	58
OH	99	96	64	90
PA	95	90	68	84
SD	69	35	81	79
WI	96	90	59	77
ALL	80	65	66	79

These 9 States produced 56% of the 1996 oat crop.

Oats Percent Emerged

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	92	76	89	83
MI	57	44	22	45
MN	53	32	47	62
NE	91	73	99	NA
ND	5	0	4	33
OH	92	71	49	73
PA	72	65	60	NA
SD	22	9	53	65
WI	62	36	30	NA
ALL	49	34	45	58

These 9 States produced 56% of the 1996 oat crop.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending May 18, 1997

Peanuts Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	85	45	78	76
FL	75	40	80	NA
GA	83	54	84	83
NC	31	20	45	61
OK	32	22	28	25
SC	84	67	90	79
TX	18	11	29	17
VA	75	35	66	82
ALL	61	37	64	62

These 8 States produced 99% of the 1996 peanut crop.

Barley Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	82	64	83	87
MN	38	22	27	64
MT	84	60	74	82
ND	39	13	21	60
SD	56	22	75	78
WA	94	86	88	93
ALL	59	37	48	72

These 6 States produced 82% of the 1996 barley crop.

Barley Percent Emerged

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	52	42	60	69
MN	9	4	11	36
MT	35	8	28	47
ND	6	0	4	34
SD	21	2	32	59
WA	77	60	61	77
ALL	24	12	22	46

These 6 States produced 82% of the 1996 barley crop.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	90	80	89	90
MN	43	24	32	68
MT	78	62	74	84
ND	49	17	25	61
SD	76	48	80	82
ALL	59	34	45	70

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 spring wheat crop.

Spring Wheat Percent Emerged

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	70	58	74	77
MN	15	4	13	40
MT	45	12	26	50
ND	10	1	7	34
SD	37	6	48	65
ALL	24	6	19	44

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 spring wheat crop.

Rice Percent Planted

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	90	77	88	82
CA	90	50	43	45
LA	96	85	92	90
MS	93	90	97	87
TX	86	69	92	89
ALL	91	74	82	78

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 rice crop.

Rice Percent Emerged

	May 18 1997	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	57	33	70	64
CA	50	20	9	13
LA	82	70	80	82
MS	80	67	83	74
TX	59	34	83	74
ALL	63	41	63	60

These 5 States produced 96% of the 1996 rice crop.

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	20	49	25	4
CA	0	5	15	45	35
CO	6	15	36	36	7
GA	1	8	37	52	2
ID	1	2	20	53	24
IL	2	3	21	62	12
IN	0	4	27	56	13
KS	4	11	30	44	11
MI	3	11	31	42	13
MO	1	10	29	49	11
MT	3	11	49	35	2
NE	2	14	44	37	3
NC	0	4	32	57	7
OH	2	10	37	41	10
OK	11	18	35	34	2
OR	0	4	21	42	33
SD	9	23	31	33	4
TX	5	16	39	31	9
WA	0	3	14	56	27
ALL	5	12	33	40	10
Prev Wk	5	11	31	44	9
Prev Yr	21	25	27	22	5

Rice Crop Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	1	11	46	38	4
CA	0	0	5	80	15
LA	0	10	52	35	3
MS	0	0	32	65	3
TX	0	0	23	60	17
ALL	0	7	36	50	7
Prev Wk	0	7	40	48	5
Prev Yr	0	3	25	58	14

VP - Very Poor
P - Poor
F - Fair
G - Good
EX - Excellent

National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 1996 planted acres.

State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly in April through November and monthly in the other months, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Weather and Crop Bulletins published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at http://www.usda.gov/nass/ or from JAWF at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 13% very short, 40% short, 46% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring plowing 93% complete, 93% 1996, 93% avg. Wheat harvested 10%, 9% 1996, 5% avg.; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 16% fair, 72% good, 10% excellent. Rain was need in many areas. Weeks of blowing sand, cold weather forced cotton producers to reseed early planted fields.

ALASKA: Much needed rain was received throughout crop producing areas. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 30% short, 70% adequate. Subsoil 25% short, 65% adequate, 10% surplus. Fieldwork progress on schedule to 7 days ahead. Barley seeding 75% complete, 15% behind last year's progress. Commercial potato planting was 10% complete, compared with 15% 1996. Livestock mostly good to excellent condition.

ARIZONA: Above-normal temperatures provided favorable cotton growing conditions. Small grains 52% mature, 9% harvested; 77%, 7% 1996; 29%, 9% avg.; 3% poor, 11% fair, 46% good, 40% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity 1% light, 35% moderate, 50% active, 14% not being harvested; 10% fair, 44% good, 46% excellent. Melon season moving into high gear in the western production area with cantaloupe, honeydews, orange flesh, other specialty melons being shipped. Central area growers continued to harvest cabbage, carrots, mixed greens, green, dry onions along with parsley. Digging of table stock, chipping potatoes remained active. Iceberg lettuce was being shipped from the eastern area. Valencia orange, grapefruit harvest continued steady.

ARKANSAS: A cool dry week overall. Main farming activities: Weed control, continued fertilization of pastures. Hay cutting. Continued ground preparation for planting of rice, cotton, soybeans. Side dressing corn with nitrogen. Flushing, applying fertilizers to rice. Spring fruit, vegetable work includes tomato spraying, apple, peach fruit thinning. Livestock reported in good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under clear skies, hot weather in most areas. Harvest of wheat, barley for grain began in a few fields in the San Joaquin Valley, while desert area harvest was in full swing. Rice planting was winding down. Seeded fields were sprayed for weeds, water weevils. Cotton planting was virtually complete. Emerged fields were cultivated, irrigated, weeded, treated for aphids and mites. Replanted fields showed good germination, warm weather helped to accelerate growth. Corn, safflower, new crop sugar beets, sunflowers were growing rapidly. Planting of black eye beans, corn following small grain harvest continued. Garbanzo beans, safflower were drying for harvest in the San Joaquin Valley. Sugar beet harvest was active in the San Joaquin, Imperial valleys. Bees were placed in seed alfalfa fields for pollination. Alfalfa, sudan grass, winter forage were cut for hay or green chopped. Harvest of early variety apricots, peaches, plums, nectarines accelerated. Apples, pears were sprayed for codling moth. Grape bloom was nearly complete. Table grape growers continued to pull leaves, thin bunches. Apricot seasonal progress was about ten days ahead of normal. Cherry harvest gained momentum. Avocados were blooming late. Olives were in the final stages of bloom. Lemons, Valencia oranges were harvested. Harvesting of lettuce in the Salinas-Watsonville area was in full swing. Broccoli, cauliflower harvest continued in the central coast areas. Cantaloupes, watermelons were harvested in the Imperial Valley. Watermelons were sprayed for aphids in the Sacramento Valley. Sweetpotato planting gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Tomatoes continued to bloom, set fruit in central, southern counties. Onions, sweet corn, peppers were harvested in southern counties. Sweet corn, tomatoes were treated for worms in the San Joaquin Valley. Potatoes, carrots were harvested in Kern County. Harvest of garlic, red onions continued. Peas were harvested in Stanislaus, Merced Counties. Picking of cucumbers was progressing slowly in Tulare County. Rangeland conditions were good in the upper elevations, northern counties, with plentiful feed, water supplies. Pastures, ranges continued to deteriorate at lower elevations, southern counties. Irrigated pastures were doing well. Despite unseasonably warm weather, range cattle remained in good condition throughout the State. Feedlots were nearing capacity.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 33% very short, 28% short, 36% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 35% short, 47% adequate, 2% surplus. Spring barley 99% planted, 100% 1996, 93% avg.; 88% emerged, 93% 1996, 72% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Oats 95% seeded, 92% 1996, 80% avg.; 80% emerged, 77% 1996, 63% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 64% good, 8% excellent. Corn 49% emerged, 42% 1996, 22% avg. Spring wheat 91% planted, 95% 1996, 73% avg.; 69% emerged, 82% 1996, 48% avg.; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 14% excellent. Summer potatoes 100% planted, 100% 1996, 90% avg.; 17% emerged, 29% 1996, 23% avg. Dry onion 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Sugar beets 3% very poor, 7% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Fall potatoes 75% planted, 75% 1996, 63% avg. Dry beans 3% planted, 13% 1996, 3% avg. Winter wheat 88% jointed, 81% 1996, 77% avg. Livestock mostly good to fair.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 98% adequate. Winter wheat 12% fair, 77% good, 11% excellent; 49% headed, 36% 1996, 51% avg. Barley 2% poor, 14% fair, 77% good, 7% excellent; 98% headed, 96% 1996, 97% avg.; 10% turned, 3% 1996, 6% avg. Corn 54% planted, 62% 1996, 77% avg. Soybeans 8% planted, 3% 1996, 5% avg. Potatoes 98% planted, 97% 1996, 97% avg. Tomatoes 13% planted, 24% 1996, 40% avg. Watermelons 22% planted, 12% 1996, 41% avg. Cantaloupes 26% planted, 9% 1996, 34% avg. Sweet corn 42% planted, 42% 1996, 63% avg. Apples 96% bloomed, 70% 1996, 90% avg. Strawberries 78% bloomed, 92% 1996, 93% avg. Hay supplies 23% short, 77% adequate. Clover and other hays 15% 1st cutting harvested, 6% 1996, 16% avg. Alfalfa 13% 1st cutting harvested, 10% 1996, 14 % avg. Activities: Land preparation, planting, harvesting hay. Black cutworm activity is being reported in field corn in both no-till, conventionally tilled fields, worm populations are extremely light in small grains.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture is short to adequate throughout the State. Peanuts were 75% planted. Cotton planting and crop emergence were delayed by cool weather. Soybean planting is active. Corn and sugarcane growth is normal. Weather is on the cool side for forages and tobacco. Haying is active. Rainy weather delayed vegetable harvesting with most activity resuming after soils dried. Major vegetables shipped were tomatoes, potatoes, watermelons, sweet corn, and peppers. Citrus areas were hot and dry. Growers were irrigating. The new crop of fruit was in good condition. Valencias remaining for harvest were in good condition, with high solids. Grapefruit movement is still active in the lower east coast. Honey tangerines are almost over for the year. Caretakers are cutting cover crops, and spraying, hedging, and topping fruit trees, and burning dead trees. Pasture feed was poor 15%, fair 40%, good 40%, and excellent 5%. Pasture conditions improved in areas that received rain. Pastures are worse in areas of cooler weather, with less than adequate rain. Drought, mole crickets, and overstocking have devastated pastures in the west-central area. Condition of cattle herds is fair 55%, good 35%, excellent 10%.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 4% very short, 30% short, 64% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 1% poor, 24% fair, 68% good, 7% excellent; 1% silked, 0% 1996, 1% avg. Cotton 1% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 4% poor, 39% fair, 52% good, 5% excellent; 1% blooming, 1% 1996, 2% avg. Sorghum 2% poor, 29% fair, 68% good, 1% excellent; 40% planted, 54% 1996, 50% avg. Soybeans 4%

poor, 19% fair, 75% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco 2% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Wheat 4% harvested for grain, 0% 1996, 3% avg. Onions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 61% good, 1% excellent; 86% harvested, 73% 1996, 83% avg. Watermelons 4% poor, 32% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent; 95% planted, 97% 1996, 98% avg. Apples 3% fair, 95% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 5% poor, 7% fair, 28% good, 60% excellent; 13% harvested, 9% 1996, 9% avg. Sunny, cool, breezy, soils dried rapidly. Few scattered showers not enough. Most crops conditions steady. Cool night temperatures slowing growth, germination. Some cotton replanted, excellent planting progress peanuts, cotton. Pastures, hay growth slow. Wheat harvest beginning. Tobacco diseases still spreading. Activities: Planting peanuts, cotton, vegetables. Harvesting onions, peaches, wheat. Baling hay.

HAWAII: Lingering showers and cloudiness slowed farming in some areas. Northeast sections of islands received most of rainfall. Spraying increased to prevent disease outbreaks. Leeward sections drier with favorable conditions for agriculture. Most crops in good condition; aided by showers, moderate temperatures, and light winds. Banana production steady most areas, slight increase expected from major producing area. Overall papaya production steady. Head cabbage production moderate to heavy, overall yields and crop conditions were good. Sweet corn production expected to continue increasing. Watermelon harvest moderate to heavy. Crop condition good.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation helped northern and eastern areas' planting progress and crop emergence. Topsoil 9% surplus, 75% adequate, 16% short. Spring wheat jointed 13%, booted 3%. Barley jointed 13%, booted 4%. Winter wheat jointed 65%; booted 25%. Potatoes planted 72%, 84% 1996, 71% avg.; emerged 11%, 7% 1996, 10% avg. Sugar beets emerged 92%, 93% 1996, 78% avg. Corn planted 87%; 81% 1996; 61% avg.; emerged 56%, 36% 1996, 22% avg. Dry beans planted 21%, 15% 1996, 9% avg. Dry peas planted 61%, 32% 1996, 64% avg.; emerged 21%, 15% 1996, 46% avg. Oats planted 73%, 72% 1996, 76% avg.; emerged 56%, 57% 1996, 57% avg. Lentils planted 64%, 18% 1996, 58% avg.; emerged 6%, 5% 1996, 39% avg. Alfalfa hay harvested (1st cutting) 2%, 2% 1996, 3% avg. Irrigation water supply 84% excellent, 16% good. Barley 30% excellent, 57% good, 12% fair, 1% poor. Spring wheat 25% excellent, 67% good, 8% fair. Activities: Planting small grains, potatoes, dry beans, corn, dry peas, harvesting alfalfa, moving livestock to spring pasture, branding, fencing, cultivating, irrigating, fertilizing, weed control.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 22% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Soybean planting made good progress statewide last week. By 18th, 95% of the corn crop, 67% of the soybean crop had been planted. Soils in the southeast district dried enough to allow farmers a chance to plant a significant portion of their corn crop. Varying amounts of frost were reported across the State on 16th morning. Many areas recorded record- or near-record-low temperatures. It is believed only minimal damage occurred as the frost was light, the growing point on corn was still below the soil surface, few beans had emerged. Frost reportedly did hamper the development of alfalfa, though, the first cutting will likely be short. High winds and a lack of rainfall last week dried soils rapidly. In areas where corn is emerged, farmers were hoeing to help aid emergence, also to activate herbicides. Other activities for the week included ground preparation, chemical application, side dressing corn, spreading fertilizer. Wheat filled 2%, 0% 1996, 5% avg. Oats headed 8%, 10% 1996, 6% avg.; 25% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 7%, 0% 1996, 7% avg.; 6% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Red clover hay cutting 4%, 0% 1996, 4% avg.; 2% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 66% good, 12% excellent.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 14% short, 77% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Many farmers are finished planting corn. Corn emergence has been very slow due to continued cool temperatures, some soil crusting. Winter wheat 97% jointed, 86% 1996, 89% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Corn planting, soybean planting, rotary hoeing, applying herbicide, field preparation, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil short 9%, adequate 81%, surplus 10%. Subsoil short 4%, adequate 83%, surplus 13%. A dry week helped farmers make significant planting progress, and continued cold weather has slowed crop emergence. The 1997 row crops' primary seedbed preparation was completed 94%, compared with 93% in 1996 and 83% avg.; fertilizer application was completed 96%, compared with 96% in 1996 and 87% avg. Corn planting is 18 days ahead of the five-year average, emergence is about 3 days behind the average. Corn planted 94%, 86% 1996, 73% avg. Corn acreage emerged 20%, 17% 1996, 32% avg. Just over 40% of the intended soybean crop was planted last week. Soybeans planted 53%, 19% 1996, 35% avg. Oats emerged 92%, 89% 1996, 83% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Oat 5% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent. Livestock experienced improved conditions, are generally in good health. Pastures are still slow in developing, more cattle were placed on pasture as good quality hay becomes more scarce.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 7% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 17% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat jointing 100%, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; turning 1%, 0% 1997, 2% avg. Declining soil moisture is a concern for continued crop progress. First cut alfalfa hay 21%, 4% 1996, 16% avg. Reports of Russian aphids, greenbugs in wheat, cutworms in alfalfa fields. Disease reports of wheat streak mosaic barley yellow dwarf, leaf rust. Pasture feed 5% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 5% short, 92% adequate, 3% surplus. Major field activities included planting corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers. Livestock activities included moving late calves to pasture, marketing calves.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 79% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 12% surplus. Field activities included planting tobacco, corn, soybeans, fertilizing, some hay harvesting. Burley tobacco acreage set 13%, 9% 1996, 12% avg. Dark tobacco 13% set, 7 % 1996, 16% avg. Condition of tobacco 6% very poor, 4% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Corn germination still slowed due to cold weather. Acreage planted 74%, 50% 1996, 69% avg. Corn 1% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 16% excellent. Hay 4% very poor, 15% poor, 45% fair, 31% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 36% good, 5% excellent. Strawberry production 57% small, 33% medium, 10% large.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 1% very short, 22% short, 70% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 34% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent; 0% silked, 1% 1996, 3% avg. Corn fields were showing some signs of nutrient deficiency due to cool weather earlier this spring. Cotton 55% emerged, 85% 1996, 81% avg. Hay 46% 1st cutting, 30% 1996, 31% avg. Peaches 1% harvested, 2% 1996, 2% avg. Rice some rice fields began showing signs of water weevils. Sorghum 3% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent; 67% emerged, 79% 1996, 66% avg. Soybeans 30% emerged, 39% 1996, 23% avg. Soybean growers were waiting for rain to plant. Spring plowing 94% plowing, 99% 1996, 96% avg. Sugarcane 5% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Sugarcane producers were wrapping up fertilizer applications, weed control measures. Sweetpotatoes 11% planted, 9% 1996, 13% avg. Wheat 10% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent; 81% turning color, 89% 1996, 82% avg.; 7% harvested, 6% 1996, 13% avg. Livestock 5% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Cattlemen were working spring calves. Vegetables 10% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. Vegetable producers were engaged in insect control measures.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 11% short, 83% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent; 73% headed, 60% 1996, 67% avg. Barley 2% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent; 96% headed, 91% 1996, 95% avg.; 8% turned, 3% 1996, 11% avg. Field corn 78% planted, 56% 1996, 70% avg. Soybeans 9% planted, 7% 1996, 9% avg. Cantaloupe 70% planted, 69% 1996, 64% avg. Sweet corn 61% planted, 57% 1996, 57% avg. Watermelons 59% planted, 66% 1996, 58% avg. Tomatoes 75% planted, 71% 1996, 65% avg. Tobacco 18% transplanted, 7% 1996, 14%

avg. Apples 100% bloomed, 90% 1996, 94% avg. Strawberries 87% bloomed, 75% 1996, 86% avg.; 34% harvested, 12% 1996, 7% avg. Hay supplies 12% very short, 24% short, 63% adequate, 1% surplus; Clover, other hays 21% 1st cutting harvested, 11% 1996, 10% avg. Activities: Land preparation, planting, harvesting hay. Reports of wheat disease, insect pressure on vegetable crops.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Cold, rainy weather continued in the lower peninsula while parts of the upper peninsula received snow. A hard frost delayed planting, slowing crop development, worried all farmers. Warm weather is needed soon for germination to occur, help plantings catch up with normal averages. Topsoil 2% short, 59% adequate, 39% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 71% adequate, 26% surplus. Potatoes, planted 71% 1997, 51% 1996, 55% avg. Potatoes, emerged 35% 1997. Asparagus, harvested 16% 1997, 6% 1996, 23% avg.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 2% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 97% ground prepared, 76% 1996, 77% avg.; 92% planted, 61% 1996, 69% avg.; 14% emerged, 11% 1996, 24% avg. Soybeans 76% ground prepared, 31% 1996, 48% avg.; 57% planted, 13% 1996, 34% avg. Spring wheat 43% planted, 32% 1996, 68% avg.; 15% emerged, 13% 1996, 40% avg. Oats 83% planted, 83% 1996, 87% avg.; 53% emerged, 47% 1996, 62% avg. Barley 38% planted, 27% 1996, 64% avg.; 9% emerged, 11% 1996, 36% avg. Sugar beets 82% planted, 43% 1996, 76% avg. Sweet corn 48% planted, 29% 1996, 40% avg. Green peas 77% planted, 63% 1996, 67% avg. Potatoes 45% planted, 43% 1996, 52% avg. Flaxseed 0% planted, 5% 1996, 25% avg. Dry edible beans 12% planted, 6% 1996, 23% avg. Sunflowers 2% planted, 4% 1996, 29% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 27% poor, 40% fair, 26% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 5% very poor, 24%poor, 32% fair, 37% good, 2% excellent. Alfalfa 12% very poor, 23% poor, 40% fair, 22% good, 3% excellent. Rye 5% very poor, 17% poor, 32% fair, 35%good, 11% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 3% poor, 46% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 6% very short, 33% short, 56% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 100% planted, 100% 1996, 94% avg.; 96% emerged, 99% 1996, 90% avg.; 2% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent. Soybeans 62% planted, 74% 1996, 41% avg.; 39% emerged, 53% 1996, 31% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 74% good, 7% excellent. Wheat 100% heading, 100% 1996, 99% avg.; 9% mature, 36% 1996, 25% avg.; 1% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Peanuts 79% planted, 88% 1996, 67%avg.; 1% fair, 98% good, 1% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 10% planted, 14% 1996, 20% avg.; 1% poor, 71% fair, 28% good. Hay 63% harvested (cool season), 60% 1996, 33% avg.; (warm season), 5% harvested, 4% 1996, 17% avg.; 4% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 18% excellent. Watermelons 88% planted, 92% 1996%, 86% avg.; 14% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 8% excellent. Blueberries 3% very poor, 2% poor, 31% fair, 45% good, 19% excellent. Cattle 3% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Activities: Planting cotton, rice, sorghum, soybeans, other crops. Rain is needed in much of State, though dry weather conditions have been favorable for crop planting.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 3% very short, 26% short, 66% adequate, 5% surplus. Some central, southern counties becoming dry. Row crop planting jumped to most advanced levels for this date in 5 years. Bean planting most advanced across central districts at 45%, followed by 36% across northern districts, least advanced southern districts at 27% or less. Corn planting 86% north-central, northeastern districts, all other districts 93 to 99%. Sorghum planting ranges less than 25% northern third of the State, central district, to 59% southeast, 72% southwest. Wheat heading ranges 5% or less northern districts to virtual completion in southern third of the State. First crop alfalfa 17%, 5% 1996, 10% avg. Other hay 4%, 1% 1996, 3% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 12% poor, 42% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 25% very short, 39% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 13% very short, 26% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Warm, dry weather and wind have dried the ground in most areas, allowing excellent progress on spring planting. Some areas of the State are in need of moisture. Oats 68% planted, 52% 1996, 74% avg.; emerged 36%, 19% 1996, 41% avg. Sugar beets 98% planted, 94% 1996, 97% avg.; 74% emerged, 59% 1996. Corn 81% planted, 64% 1996, 69% avg.; 8% emerged, 16% 1996, 18% avg. Potatoes 33% planted, 20% 1996, 40% avg.; emerged 3%. Dry beans 56% planted, 24% 1996, 44% avg.; emerged 3%, 4% 1996. Pastures in most areas are starting to green. However, a few areas are reporting pasture conditions similar to that found in mid-August. Calving 98% complete, lambing 88% complete. Cattle moved to summer pasture 53%, sheep moved 37%.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 7% very short, 38 short, 55% adequate. Subsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 81% adequate, 1% surplus. Excellent weather conditions last week helped promote rapid fieldwork progress. Most producers were nearly finished with corn planting, many got a good start on soybeans, sorghum. Record-low temperatures were recorded in many parts of the State early 13th. With most of the corn not yet emerged, the crop was not severely affected. Although the dry weather conditions were great for fieldwork activities, rain was needed to encourage crop emergence and grass growth. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 14% poor, 44% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent; 63% jointed, 68% 1996, 84% avg.; 1% headed, 1% 1996, 10% avg.; crop showing signs of stress due to lack of moisture in parts of the southwest, south-central counties; effects of the freezing temperatures were still being evaluated; much of the Panhandle crop had not yet been jointed. Corn 94% planted, 82% 1996, 73% avg.; 40% emerged, 38% 1996, 33% avg. Soybeans 42% planted, 13% 1996, 23% avg.; 3% emerged, 1% 1996, 5% avg. Sorghum 27% planted, 7% 1996, 16% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 1996 3% avg. Oats 91% emerged, 99% 1996. Alfalfa 6% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Pasture feed, range 3% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 2% excellent. Moving cattle to summer pastures, supplemental feeding was necessary in most areas. Other activities: Spring tillage fertilizer application, field preparation for millet, sunflowers, dry beans in the west.

NEVADA: Temperatures remained above normal, as scattered thundershowers continued. Lightning strikes ignited additional range, forest fires. Alfalfa hay fair to good with cutting getting underway in Lahontan Valley. Second cutting of alfalfa continued extreme south. Planting of new alfalfa fields continued. Spring grain planting was completed, virtually all newly planted grain had emerged. Smut was showing up in winter barley northwest, lowering crop condition to poor to good. Winter, spring wheat continued mostly good north, excellent extreme south. Onion mostly good. Garlic good to excellent. Potato planting was well along. Pastures, ranges continue to show good growth. Most range livestock had been moved to summer ranges. Main farm, ranch activities: Alfalfa hay harvest, potato planting, irrigating, spraying.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 51% adequate, 49% surplus. Subsoil 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 22% poor, 51% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 75% planted, 50% 1996, 65% avg.; <5 emerged. Rhode Island potatoes 70% planted, 45% 1996, 55% avg.; 20% emerged. Maine potatoes <5% planted, 20% 1996, 25% avg. Field corn 15% planted, 15% 1996, 30% avg.; 0% emerged. Sweet corn 25% planted, 20% 1996, 30% avg.; 10% emerged. Oats in Maine 5% planted, 70% 1996, 45% avg. Barley in Maine <5% planted, 70% 1996; 0% emerged. Strawberries bud to dormant. Apples early bloom stage. Peaches in petal fall. Pears in full bloom. Cranberries, blueberries in bud stage. Cool, wet weather further delayed crop development, fieldwork progress was behind by at least one week throughout the region. Major farm activities: Plowing, harrowing, planting field corn on well-drained fields. Planting cool weather vegetables. Brisk greenhouse sales in anticipation of Memorial Day weekend. Putting livestock out on pastures.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil adequate. Farmers are busy tilling, planting, harvesting, implementing pest control measures, orchard cultivating, pruning, spreading fertilizer. Currently, planting tomatoes, peppers, squash, sweet corn, snap beans, soybeans, field corn. Harvesting of Boston lettuce, broccoli, asparagus, green onions, herbs, spinach, leeks, radishes, parsley. Peaches are past the shuck split stage and starting to size. Apples are setting in most areas. Strawberries are nearing harvest. Pastures reported in good condition.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Soil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 74% adequate. Above-average temperatures combined with light precipitation allowed spring planting to progress well in most areas

of the State; cotton 83% complete, 84% 1996, 82% avg.; corn 84% complete, 89% 1996; sorghum 12% complete, 4% 1996, 14% avg. Above-normal precipitation throughout most of the State this year has kept most crops in good condition. Chile 4% poor, 21% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent; onion 1% fair, 77% good, 22% excellent; lettuce 2% fair, 38% good, 60% excellent; corn 6% fair, 90% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat 2% poor, 23% fair, 69% good, 6% excellent; 70% headed, 90% 1996, 89% avg. Alfalfa 1st cutting 35% complete; 1% poor, 11% fair, 74% good, 14% excellent. Lettuce harvest continues as onion harvests gets underway; lettuce 60% complete, onions 3%. Ranchers continue to move livestock to spring pastures, while calving, branding continues. Cattle, sheep mostly fair to good. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 55% good, 3% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Soil moisture 67% adequate, 33% surplus. Pasture feed 56% fair, 44% good. Corn 25% planted, 8% 1996, 28% avg. Oats 62% planted, 15% 1996, 55% avg. Wheat 100% good. Oats 100% good. Potato planting continued. Warmer weather needed to promote growth. Potato plantings continued in upstate. Cool weather slowed vegetable planting, development. Sweet corn emergence behind normal. Onion planting continued. Fruit growth delayed by cool temperatures. Hudson Valley apples in full bloom. Lake Ontario apples had budbreak last week. Fruit progress is behind one week compared with 1996.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Farmers had a very full week for planting. Though below-normal temperatures continued through the week, there was very little rain to slow fieldwork. Many cotton farmers were able to recover from the slow start by planting 30% of the crop during the week, though plantings still lag behind last year and the average. Some localized areas are concerned that the cooler-than-normal temperatures may hamper germination of the cotton, peanut crops. Soil moisture 1% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Activities for the week included: Planting corn, cotton, peanuts, soybeans, tobacco; preparation of tobacco, peanut, cotton, vegetable land for planting; fertilizer, herbicide applications on corn; cutting hay; maintaining pastures; tending livestock; repairing equipment; general farm maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Substantial progress was made on both small grain, late season crop planting, though all crops except corn remained behind averages. Major activities included moving cattle to pasture as as fertilizer, herbicide application along with tillage operations. Topsoil 1% very short, 23% short, 66% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 80% adequate, 11% surplus. Durum wheat was 35% planted, 16% 1996, 49% avg.; corn 51% planted, 19% 1996, 43% avg.; potatoes 25% planted, 18% 1996, 39% avg.; sugar beets 76% planted, 42% 1996, 77% avg.; dry edible beans 4% planted, 1% 1996, 13% avg. Pastures, ranges supplied 74% of roughage requirements. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 8% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 6% short, 79% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn planting winding down in northwest, west-central, southwest, central districts. Progress less than 70% northeast. Corn emerged 21%, 4% 1996, 24% avg. Oat seeding nearly complete; oats emerged nearly a week ahead of normal. Soybean planting more than a week ahead of normal; progress approaching 70% complete central, west-central districts. Soybeans emerged is 4%, 0% 1996, 7% avg. Potato planting is 81% complete, 37% 1996, 71% avg. Transplanting processed tomatoes is 10% complete compared with 9% 1996, 31% avg. Southern counties finishing setting fresh market tomatoes and peppers, continue planting sweet corn, beginning to cut hay. Other activities include spraying, scouting crops, applying fertilizer, machinery maintenance. Hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 39% fair, 42% good, and 6% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Strawberries 2% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent.

OKLAHOMA: Warm days, windy weather began to dry fields out, allow crop progress to accelerate. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 6% short, 85% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 91% adequate, 7% surplus. Wheat 20% soft dough, 32% 1996, 32% avg.; oats 78% heading, 58% 1996, 62% avg.; 36% soft dough, 25% 1996, 18% avg.; corn 88% planted, 100% 1996, 96% avg.; 75% up-to-stand, 89% 1996, 84% avg.; sorghum 48% seedbed prepared, 69% 1996, 69% avg.; 4% up-to-stand, 16% 1996, 9% avg.; soybeans 88% seedbed prepared, 85% 1996, 74% avg.; 41% planted, 42% 1996, 30% avg.; 21% up-to-stand, 19% 1996, 12% avg.; peanuts 86% seedbed prepared, 92% 1996, 85% avg.; 32% planted, 28% 1996, 25% avg.; cotton 86% seedbed prepared, 82% 1996, 85% avg.; alfalfa hay 59% 1st cutting, 45% 1996, 49% avg. All other hay 42% 1st cutting, 22% 1996, 36% avg.; watermelons 97% planted, 82% 1996, 18% avg.; livestock 1% poor, 16% fair, 74% good, 9% excellent. Fed cattle prices higher.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 13% short, 87% adequate . Subsoil 7% short, 92% adequate, 1% surplus. All barley 90% planted, 74% 1996, 85% avg. Winter wheat 4% poor, 21% fair, 42% good, 33% excellent; 19% headed, 18% 1996, 20% avg. Activities: Haying in full swing state wide. Field corn being planted, Crimson clover crop in full bloom, grass silage being cut on westside. Planting winding down on small grains. Mid-Columbia: Intense heat beginning to stress wheat. Nurseries digging, balling, shipping plants, new stock being set out. Hot weather required nurseries and greenhouses to begin irrigation and mulching. Excellent supply of flower, vegetable starts at all outlets. Easter Lily growers still roguing plants. Willamette Valley: Processing vegetables on planting schedule, some irrigation required, tomato fields set, onion planting continued. Strawberries, raspberries, Marion blackberries blooming, cherry crop looked good, hazelnuts showed good set. Coast: Early vegetables being marketed, beehives being placed by cranberry growers, Stevens cranberry development ranged from hook to 10% bloom. Northeast: Potato planting continued, early potatoes growing, irrigated peas blooming. Hood River valley: Pear set good, orchards being irrigated, cherry crop looked good. Rogue River valley: Apples, pears looked good, first codling moth cover spray applied, apples finished bloom, peaches looked fair. Some frost damage reported on apples, peaches, blueberries. Apples, pears being thinned in the Hood River, Rogue River valleys. Livestock, forage conditions continued improving across most of the State under warm, dry conditions. Livestock in good to excellent condition. Calving continued on the Coast. Cattle turned out in the east; some irrigation underway on pastures.

PENNSYLVANIA: Good week for fieldwork. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Soil moisture 7% very short, 38% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. Plowing 88% complete, 64% 1996, 78% avg. Corn planted 60% complete, 33% 1996, 46% avg. Soybeans planted 25% complete, 9% 1996, 15% avg. Oats planted 95% complete, 68% 1996, 84% avg. Potatoes planted 60% complete, 44% 1996, 57% avg. Barley 65% heading or headed, 69% 1996, 47% avg. Wheat 30% heading or headed, 24% 1996, 14% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 38% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Oat 6% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 2% very poor, 8% poor, 51% fair, 36% good, 3% excellent. Timothy clover stand 3% very poor, 8% poor, 51% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Alfalfa 1st cutting 4% complete, 4% 1996, 3% avg. Peaches 100% pink, 94% 1996, 96% avg.; 95% full bloom or past, 86% 1996, 89% avg. Cherries 100% pink, 95% 1996, 97% avg.; 98% full bloom or past, 86% 1996, 89% avg. Apples 100% pink, 80% 1996, 90% avg.; 94% full bloom or past, 68% 1996, 79% avg. Activities: Plowing; planting oats, corn, soybeans; fixing fences; hauling manure; caring for livestock.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 27% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Barley 100% headed, 95% 1996; 82% turn color, 40% 1996, 46% avg.; 5% fair, 55% good, 40% excellent. Cantaloupes 98% planted, 98% 1996, 90% avg.; 5% very poor, 5% poor, 48% fair, 42% good. Corn 5% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Cucumbers 10% fair, 45% good, 45% excellent. Hay 79% harvested, 65% 1996, 64% avg.; 3% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Oats 82% turn color, 67% 1996, 63% avg.; 52% ripe, 18% 1996, 21% avg.; 1% poor, 22% fair, 65% good, 12% excellent. Peaches 1% poor, 24% fair, 28% good, 47% excellent. Rye 100% headed, 97% 1996; 82% turn color, 58% 1996, 63% avg.; 39% ripe, 16% 1996, 21% avg.; 2% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Snap beans 87% planted, 86% 1996, 79% avg.; 1% poor, 15% fair, 42% good, 42% excellent. Sorghum 43% planted, 30% 1996, 25% avg.; 7% fair, 49% good, 44% excellent. Soybeans 19% planted, 17% 1996, 15% avg.; 8% poor, 43% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 52% planted, 33% 1996, 30% avg.; 45% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Tobacco 99% transplanted, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; 14% poor, 40% fair, 46% good. Tomatoes 98% planted, 100% 1996, 100% avg.; 20% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent. Watermelons 100% planted, 97% 1996, 92% avg.; 4% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent.

Winter wheat 100% headed, 100% 1996, 98% avg.; 78% turn color, 61% 1996, 56% avg.; 33% ripe, 7% 1996, 13% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Topsoil 1% very short, 5% short, 74% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 2% short, 59% adequate, 38% surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Winter wheat 3% boot. Spring wheat 6% poor, 38% fair, 50% good, 6% excellent. Winter rye 2% poor, 42% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Oats 5% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa hay 5% very poor, 10% poor, 39% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Sunflowers 1% planted. Flax 13% planted, 2% emerged. Livestock 3% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Calving 88% complete. Lambing 88% complete. Cattle, calves moved to pasture 58% complete. Feed supplies 8% very short, 18% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water 68% adequate, 32% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Progress continued normally, despite cool weather and a lack of rain. Farmers, however, are hoping for warm, moist conditions this week to aid crop development, help prepare fields for planting. Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 22% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 15% short, 76% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn 7% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent; 95% planted, 92% 1996, 91% avg. Tobacco 29% transplanted, 25% 1996, 30% avg. Wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, 17% excellent; 97% headed, 94% 1996, 97% avg.; 11% turning color, 6% 1996, 15% avg. Sorghum 49% planted, 39% 1996, 46% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa hay 5% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent; 42% 1st cutting, 32% 1996, 41% avg. Other hay 2% very poor, 7% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent.

TEXAS: Many areas of the State received rain during the week. However, producers were able to proceed with some fieldwork. Crop conditions slowly improved over much of the State. Some producers switched planting plans because prolonged wet conditions prevented original planting intentions. A return to higher temperatures was beneficial. Range and pasture conditions continued to improve in most areas. However, persistent wetness reduced weed control and fertilization operations in some areas. Livestock conditions continued to be good across the State. Open, warmer weather is needed in all areas.

Crops: Small grains: Harvest was increasing into central areas as weather conditions allowed. Fields in Blacklands and north-central areas turning color as harvest neared. Some lodging was reported in scattered fields. In the High Plains where freeze damage was light, fields were beginning to show good development and heading continued. Wheat was harvested 1%, 2% 1996, 2% avg. Corn: Fields in the High Plains were beginning to emerge, and most stands looked good. Planting was winding down many fields. Fields in the Blacklands showed good growth for the week. However, most remained behind normal on progress. Fields were silking in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley, with some fields entering the dough stage. Along the Upper Coast, early fields were beginning to silk. However, much acreage was planted late or switched to other crops. Corn was 83% normal compared with 54% in 1996; 4% silked, and 3% in 1996, 7% avg. Cotton planting in the Plains was slowly increasing as the soil warmed and fields dried. Emergence has been slow. Growth also has been slow in the Blacklands and central areas, where continued warm weather and slightly dryer conditions were needed in many fields. Fields continued to square in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley. Cotton was 75% normal compared with 54% in 1996; 3% squaring, and 4% in 1996, 6% avg. Grain sorghum planting increased during the week between showers in the Plains and north-central areas. Emergence has been slow in the early-planted fields. Growth has improved in the Blacklands and central areas, where producers were cultivating fields as conditions allowed. Fields continued to head in the Coastal Bend andRio Grande Valley. Statewide condition was 86% normal compared with 54% in 1996; 4% headed, and 10% in 1996, 9% avg. Peanut planting was slowly increasing in the north-central area where emergence on early planted fields was slow. Planting is getting underway in the south-central areas. Early fields were up to stands. In rice crops, more rain along the Upper Coast continued slow planting operations. Many fields were showing weed and grass problems. Early-planted fields were being flooded. Soybeans in some fields in the north-central areas were slow to emerge, and earlier fields were showing yellowing from excessive rains. Planting was slowly increasing along the Upper Coast, with additional acreage expected because of lateness for other crops. Sugar beet fields were emerging and showing good progress. Producers were treating fields for weeds. Crop progress was 99% planted, compared with 99% in 1996 and the 100% avg. Other crops: Sunflowers were 28% planted, compared with 16% in 1996 and the 28% avg.; oats were 2% harvested, compared with 7% in 1996 and 7% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: In the Rio Grande Valley, melons continued to suffer from diseases brought on by excessive rains. Limited harvest was underway. Onion harvest continued, with poor quality reported. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden area, carrot and onion harvests progressed. Watermelons were showing good growth, with some early fields being harvested. In the High Plains, potatoes and onions continued to make good progress. In the East, harvest of some vegetables was underway. Insect and disease problems continued in many fields. In the Trans-Pecos area, a few onion fields were harvested. Irrigation operations continued for cantaloups. Warmer weather helped progress. Peach harvest of few early varieties was underway in the east. The Hill Country crop looks good, and harvest will begin soon for some varieties. Pecan producers continued to spray zinc. Spraying for case bearers was getting underway in some areas. Nuts sets have been good in many areas.

Range and Livestock: Improvement of range and pasture conditions continued in most areas. Many pastures have weed problems because of prolonged wetness. Fertilization was also behind in many pastures. The first cutting of hay was completed in some areas. Livestock conditions remained good as did most markets.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 26% short, 69% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 16% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed, range 2% poor, 14% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Spring wheat emerged 90%, 94% 1996, 93% avg. Barley emerged 93%, 93% 1996, 92% avg. Oats planted 86%, 74% 1996, 82% avg.; emerged 57%, 56% 1996, 63% avg. Corn planted 71%, 78% 1996, 71% avg. Alfalfa hay height 13 in., 12 in. 1996, 13 in. average. Potatoes planted 78%, 45% 1996. Cattle moved to summer range 40%, 38% 1996, 34% avg. Sheep moved to summer range 36%, 41% 1996, 28% avg. Major farm, ranch activities were: Spring planting, tillage, spraying for weeds, early alfalfa harvest in Salt Lake, State counties, irrigating, moving cattle, sheep to summer range. Fall seeded, spring seeded grains are in good to excellent condition.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 55% short, 45% adequate. Subsoil 25% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 68% planted, 69% 1996, 76% avg.; 2% poor, 55% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent. Soybeans 7% planted, 9% 1996, 13% avg. Cotton 90% planted, 91% 1996, 95% avg. Winter wheat 1% poor, 25% fair, 70% good, 4% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Apples 5% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 50% good. Peaches 30% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 10% good. Tobacco greenhouses 3% fair, 97% good. Tobacco plantbeds 4% poor, 11% fair, 85% good. Flue tobacco transplanted 80%, 49% 1996, 63% avg. Sun tobacco transplanted 10%, 23% 1996, 25% avg. Burley tobacco transplanted 15%. Dark fire cured tobacco transplanted 50%, 22% 1996, 32% avg. Peanuts 75% planted, 66% 1996, 85% avg. Summer potatoes 10% fair, 78% good, 12% excellent. Pasture feed 15% poor, 50% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 45% fair, 51% good, 1% excellent. Other hay 20% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Producers made good planting progress in many localities. However, in some localities, fields getting too dry to plant. The cool spring has caused some germination problems and some corn is being replanted. The first hay cutting is underway and the crop appears short due to the cool spring. Producers continue scouting and treating small grain crops, especially for problems with cereal leaf beetle in some localities. Dry weather hindered vegetable planting, necessitated irrigation. Strawberry picking continues. Tobacco transplanting made great progress.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 15% short, 70% adequate, 15% surplus; subsoil 20% short, 75% adequate, 5% surplus. Some heat stress reported to previously rain soaked crops. Winter wheat 5% headed, 2% 1996, 11% avg. Winter wheat dryland 3% poor, 15% fair, 55% good, 27% excellent; irrigated 5% fair, 70% good, 25% excellent. Spring wheat 99% planted, 90% 1996, 95% avg.; 81% emerged, 68% 1996, 82% avg. Spring wheat, dryland 1 % poor 13% fair, 65% good, 21% excellent; irrigated 88% good, 12% excellent. Cereal grain development continued. Spring wheat planting neared completion. Winter wheat reported in the boot

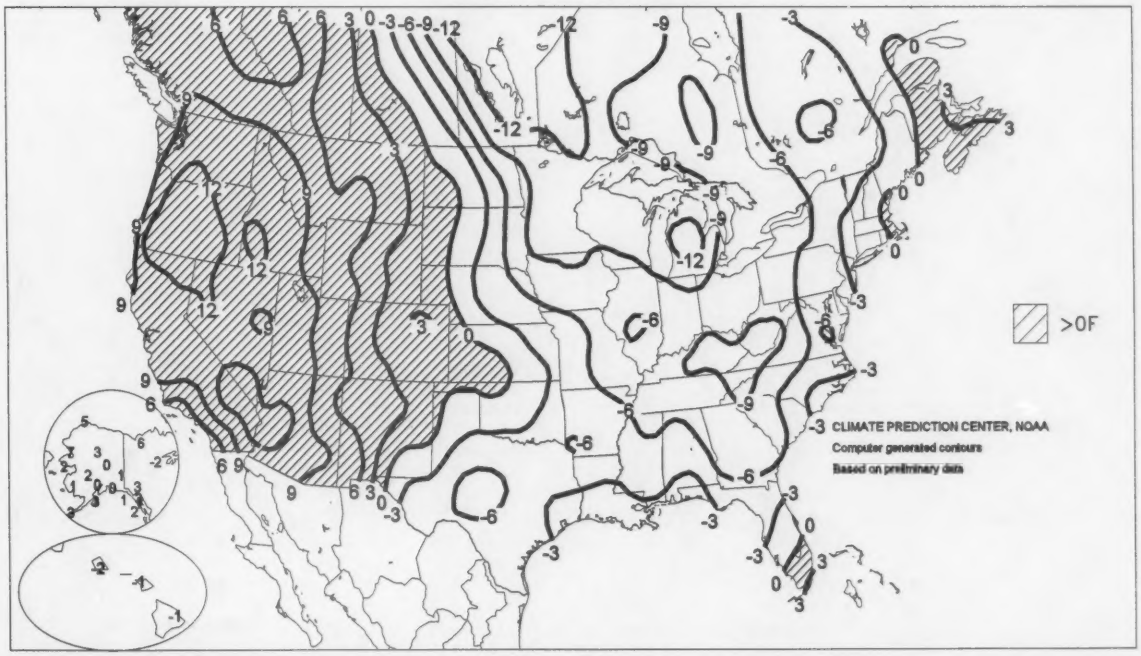
stage on both sides of the Cascades. Eastern growers applied weed control to winter wheat. Barley 94% planted, 88% 1996, 93% avg.; 77% emerged, 61% 1996, 77% avg. Barley dryland, 25% fair, 59% good, 16% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Corn 91% planted, 80% 1996, 77% avg. Dry beans 1% planted, 1% 1996, 12% avg. Dry peas 91% planted, 86% 1996, 91% avg. Potatoes 97% planted, 97% 1996, 96% avg.; 53% emerged, 71% 1996, 64% avg. Potatoes, 100% good. Hay, other roughage supplies, 6% very short, 22% short, 68% adequate, 4% surplus. Frost damage was reported to some alfalfa fields in eastern counties. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 12% excellent. Eastern grazing conditions improved rapidly, as the weather warmed. Cattle were out on spring pastures. Western growers continued cutting grass for silage, green chop. Lambing was complete. West of the mountains, vegetable field cultivation continued at a hurried pace, as farmers made up for lost time due to weather. Cannery pea growers began planting. Strawberries, blueberries, raspberries were in full bloom, with strawberries setting fruit. Tree fruit bloom was nearing the end in eastern areas. Fruit thinning, irrigation, disease control were the main activities in eastern fruit growing areas. Growers were expecting first insect infestations to begin.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil moisture 10% short, 83% adequate, 7% surplus. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 85%, 62% 1996. Corn 52% planted, 30% 1996, 53% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent. Hay, pasture growth continues to suffer due to cooler than normal temperatures. Oats 4% poor, 10% fair, 86% good; 84% planted, 70% 1996, 76% avg.; oats 55% emerged, 45% 1996, 60% avg. Soybean 10% planted, 3% 1996. Tobacco beds 99% emerged, 98% 1996, 95% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 12% excellent; 20% headed, 10% 1996. Apple 94% fair, 6% good. Peach 100% fair. Cattle 1% poor, 21% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent; 97% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 10% fair, 85% good, 4% excellent; lambing virtually complete. Hay, roughage supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 84% adequate. Feed grain supplies 10% short, 90% adequate. Activities: Field preparation for planting, planting corn, oats, soybeans; applying fertilizer; repairing fences, calving, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture: 6% very short, 12% short, 76% adequate, 6% surplus. Dodge County reporter wrote that April-planted corn was very close to emergence, light frosts did not appear to have done much damage. A reporter from Rusk County stated that there was a lot of corn in the ground, but winter-like weather will hinder germination. Soybean acreage jumped to 33% in the ground, compared with 9% 1996, 21% avg. Spring tillage increased ten points to 86% complete, compared with 61% 1996, 70% avg. An Iowa county reporter commented that the alfalfa was still short, needed heat. Oats grew fine in the cooler weather. Winter wheat 6% poor, 15% fair, 54% good, and 25% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 17% poor, 40% fair, 33% good, 9% excellent. Some apple orchards may have been hit by frost last 12th noted a Richland County reporter.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 40% short, 56% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat 29% jointed, 24% 1996, 41% avg. Barley 94% planted, 94% 1996, 91% avg.; 79% emerged, 74% 1996, 75% avg. Oats 83% planted, 84% 1996, 83% avg.; 50% emerged, 41% 1996, 48% avg. Spring wheat 77% planted, 92% 1996, 84% avg.; 45% emerged, 44% 1996, 52% avg. Sugar beets 100% planted, 99% 1996, 99% avg.; 61% emerged, 62% 1996, 59% avg. Corn 83% planted, 87% 1996, 73% avg.; 11% emerged, 39% 1996, 27% avg. Dry beans 8% planted, 6% 1996, 7% avg. Winter wheat 8% poor, 21% fair, 71% good. Barley 8% fair, 82% good, 10% excellent. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 46% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Range flock ewes lambed 58%, 53% 1996, 61% avg.; shorn 95%, 93% 1996, 92% avg. Livestock in mostly good condition. Livestock moved to summer ranges: cattle 18%, sheep 15%. Moisture needed, especially in northwest, southeast.

Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)
MAY 11 - 17, 1997



International Weather and Crop Summary

May 11 - 17, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Continued unusually warm, dry weather in Ukraine promoted winter grain development but limited topsoil moisture for crop emergence in the south.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Frequent, light showers were accompanied by unusually cool weather, slowing spring grain planting.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Late-season showers in Morocco and Algeria favored immature winter grains but slowed early harvest activities.

EUROPE: Widespread rain in the west continued to benefit winter grains and spring-sown crops.

AUSTRALIA: Beneficial rain in Queensland and New South Wales aided pastures and improved winter grain prospects.

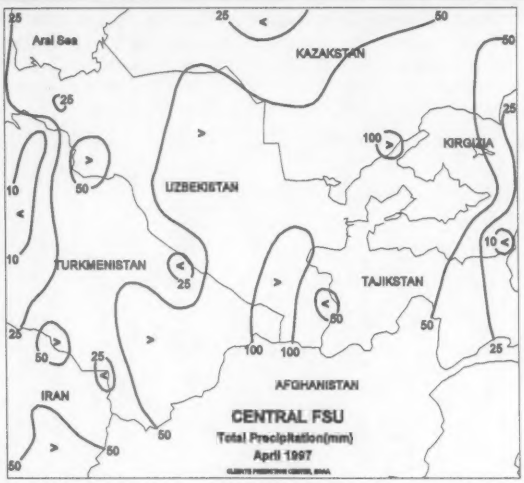
CANADA: Relatively warm, dry weather favored spring grain and oilseed planting in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan.

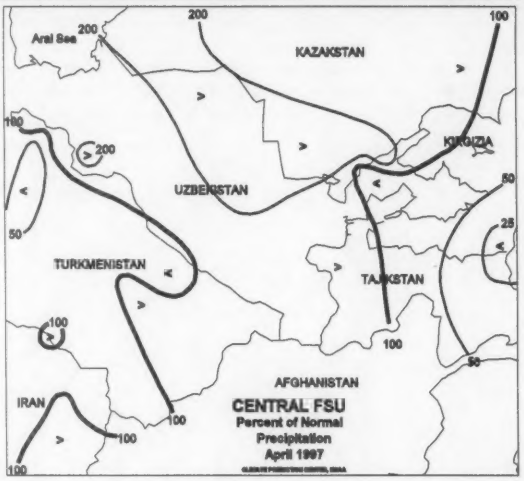
SOUTHEAST ASIA: Below-normal rainfall continued to reduce moisture for main-season crops across the western islands of the Philippines. The rainy season is off to an erratic start in Thailand.

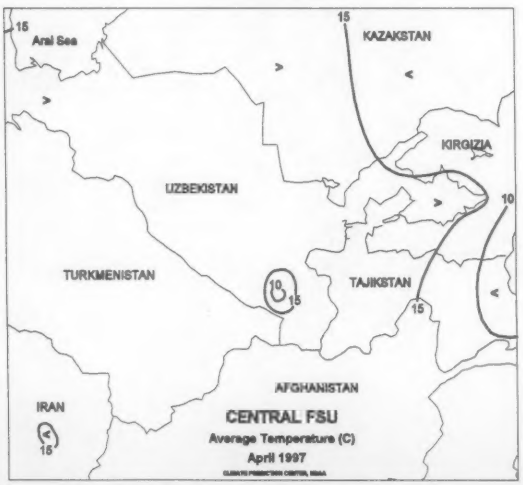
EASTERN ASIA: Rain benefited reproductive winter wheat in the North China Plain and increased topsoil moisture for spring wheat germination and summer crop planting in Manchuria.

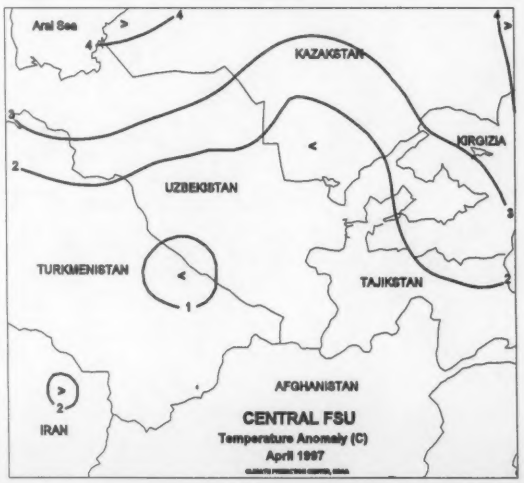
SOUTH AMERICA: Warm, dry weather continued to aid summer crop harvesting across central Argentina, but moisture is needed for winter wheat planting.

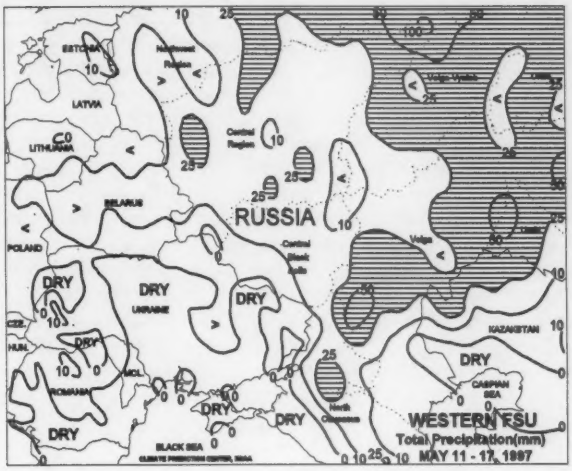
MEXICO: Showers boosted pre-planting moisture and reservoir supplies across eastern Mexico.





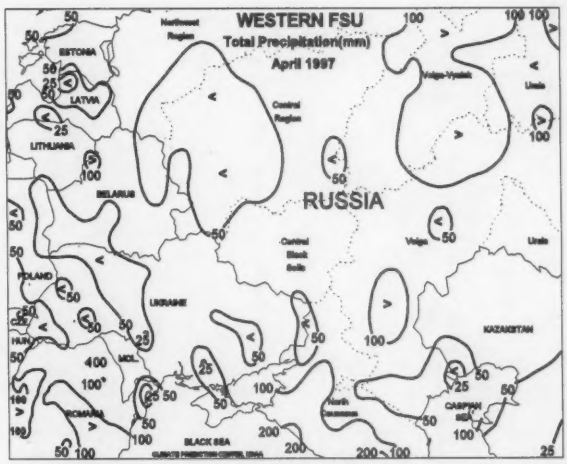


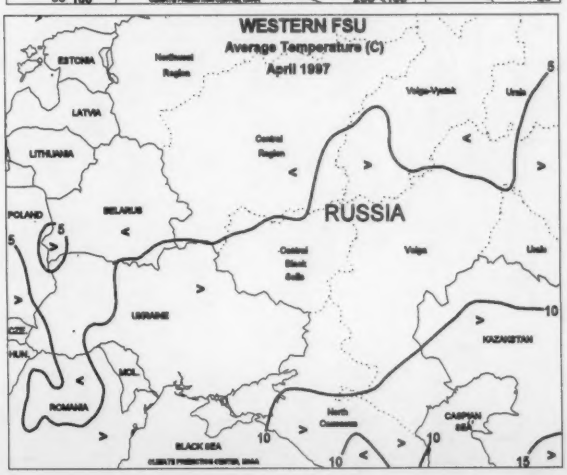


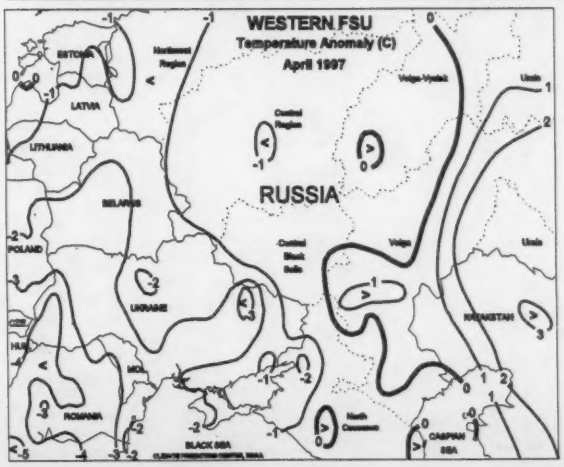


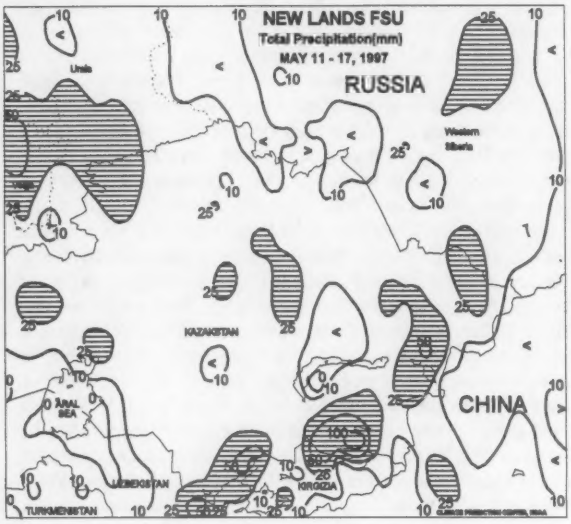
FSU-WESTERN

Unusually warm, dry weather continued in Ukraine, promoting winter grain development and favoring spring grain and summer crop planting. However, the dryness in southern Ukraine has persisted since April 24, limiting topsoil moisture for summer crop emergence and establishment. Highest weekly temperatures in Ukraine ranged from 27 to 31 degrees C. In Russia, widespread rain early in the week was followed by drier, warmer weather. Precipitation amounts in Russia generally ranged from 10 to 25 mm, with locally heavier amounts (25-59 mm) occurring in the Volga Valley and Volga Vyatsk regions. Although the rain may have slowed planting activities, it benefited winter grains in the jointing stage and emerging spring and summer crops. Elsewhere, light precipitation (3-24 mm) in Belarus and the Baltics maintained favorable moisture for crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics. In April, weather conditions favored crop development over most of the former Soviet Union west of the Urals. Above-normal precipitation fell over Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. Well-above-normal precipitation occurred in eastern Ukraine and parts of Russia (North Caucasus Region, Volga Valley, and Volga Vyatsk Regions), providing ample soil moisture for early spring crop growth. However, cool, damp weather in eastern Ukraine and southern Russia slowed spring grain planting. Unseasonably cool weather persisted in most areas during April, slowing development of winter grains. By month's end, crop development for winter grains ranged from 1 to 3 weeks behind normal in most areas.



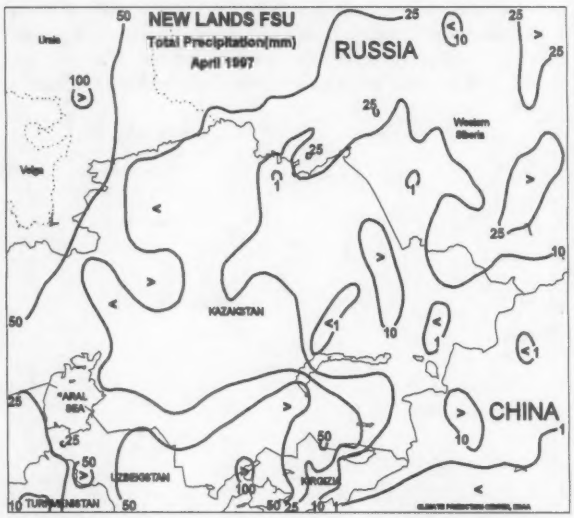


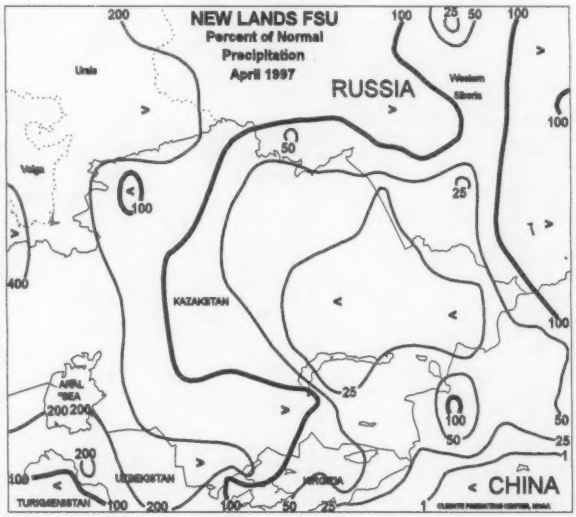


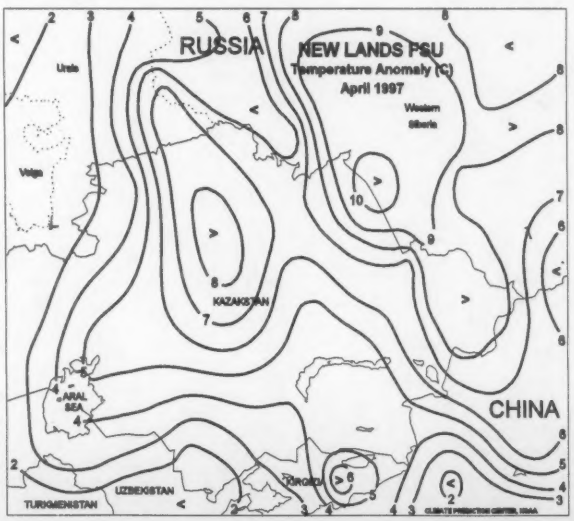


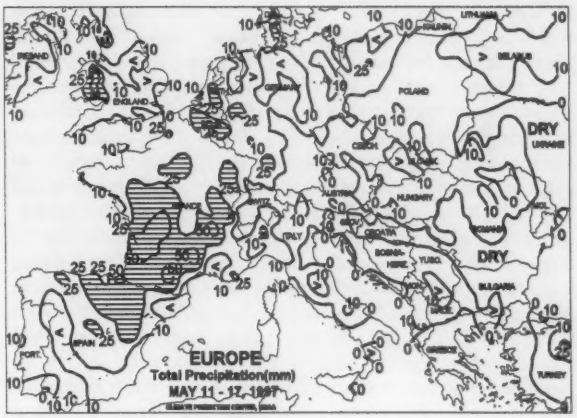
FSU-NEW LANDS

Spring grain planting (oats, spring wheat, and spring barley) typically begins in May. Widespread light to moderate precipitation occurred in Russia and Kazakstan, maintaining favorable topsoil moisture for spring grain planting. Rainfall in most areas generally ranged from 10 to 25 mm, with locally heavier amounts (25-54 mm) occurring in the Urals, and western and eastern Kazakstan. Unseasonably cool weather prevailed over most of Russia and Kazakstan during the week, with weekly temperatures averaging 1 to 3 degrees C below normal. The cool weather slowed spring grain emergence. In April, unusually warm weather was accompanied by periodic dryness in Russia and Kazakstan, helping early-season fieldwork. Moisture accumulations since last fall have been near normal in the Urals (Russia) and western Kazakstan, and below normal in most of Western Siberia (Russia) and both central and eastern Kazakstan.



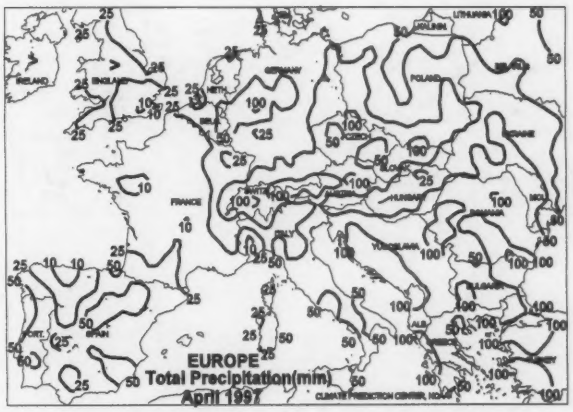


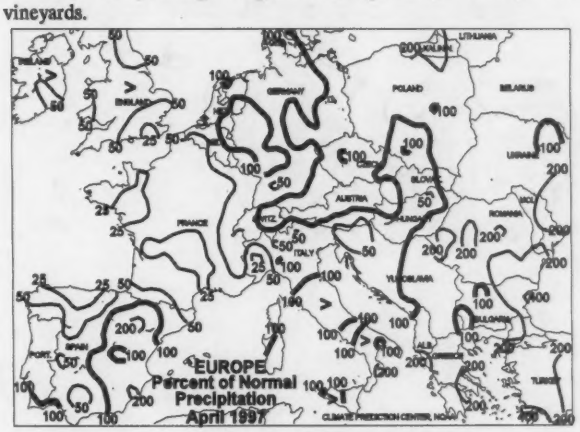


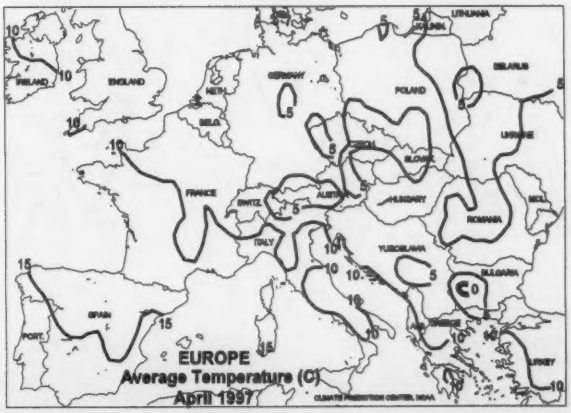


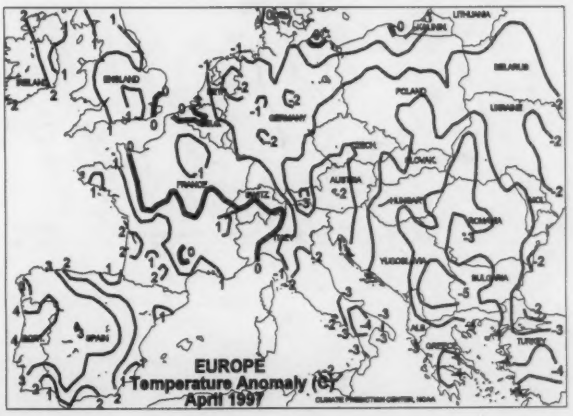
EUROPE

Widespread light to moderate rain continued in England, France, the Benelux countries, Germany, northern Spain, and northern Italy, benefiting winter grains and spring-sown crops. Precipitation amounts generally ranged from 10 to 25 mm, with greatest amounts of moisture (25-50 mm) falling in southern France and northern Spain. The rain in southern France may have caused some delays in corn and sunflower planting. Elsewhere, mostly dry weather returned to peninsular Italy, where winter grains were likely in the filling stage. Generally dry weather in southern Spain favored winter grain maturation and early harvesting. In eastern Europe, light showers and mild weather in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary favored winter grain and summer crop development. Continued dry weather in Romania and Bulgaria allowed rapid corn planting previously delayed by cold, wet weather in April. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal in western and southern Europe and 3 to 7 degrees C above normal in the east. In April, below-normal precipitation prevailed in England, France, most of the Iberian peninsula, and Italy, limiting moisture for winter grain development and newly emerging spring-planted crops. However, starting about April 19, rain began in these areas and continued until month's end, improving growing conditions for crop development. Farther east, above-normal precipitation and unseasonably cool weather prevailed over southeastern Europe during April, slowing winter grain development and delaying planting activities. On April 18, sub-freezing temperatures (-1 to -3 degrees C) in France, Italy, and parts of southeastern Europe had little, if any, impact on winter grains but may have hurt newly emerged sugar beets, vegetables, orchards, and vineyards.

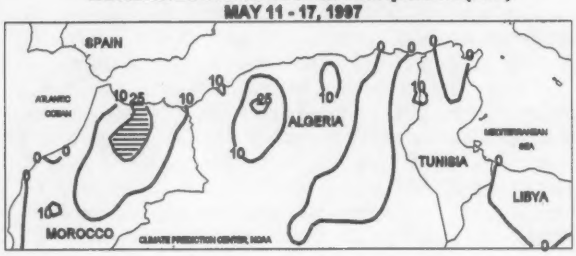








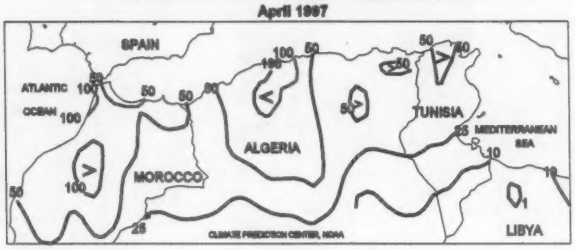
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
MAY 11 - 17, 1997



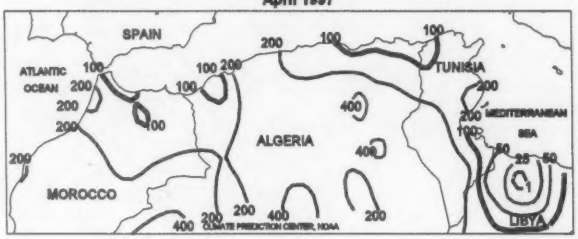
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Late-season showers (3-10 mm, with locally heavier amounts in excess of 25 mm) fell over winter grain areas in Morocco and Algeria. Although the rain favored immature winter grains, it may have caused some interruptions in early harvest activities. In Tunisia, unseasonably warm, dry weather favored winter grain maturation and harvesting. Reviewing the season, soaking rain in December in Morocco delayed winter grains planting. The wet weather was followed by dryness that began in late January and persisted through March, diminishing soil moisture and reducing yield prospects for crops. In April, above-normal precipitation in Morocco helped to stabilize conditions for crops. In Algeria and Tunisia, drought during most of the growing season negatively affected winter wheat and barley development. In Algeria, the 1997 growing season was the driest since 1990, when drought significantly lowered crop yields. Near- to above-normal precipitation in April in Algeria and Tunisia came too late to significantly improve prospects for winter grains. Weekly summaries for northwestern Africa will be discontinued until next year's planting season.

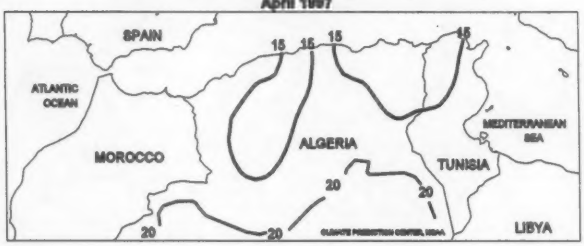
NORTHWEST AFRICA Total Precipitation (mm)
April 1997



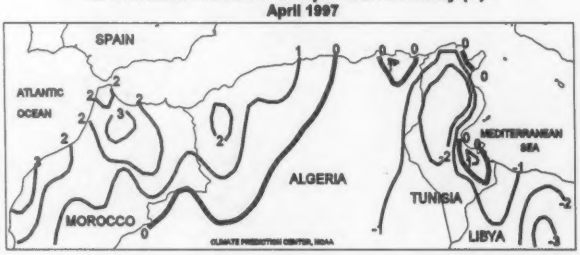
NORTHWEST AFRICA Percent of Normal Precipitation
April 1997



NORTHWEST AFRICA Average Temperature (C)
April 1997

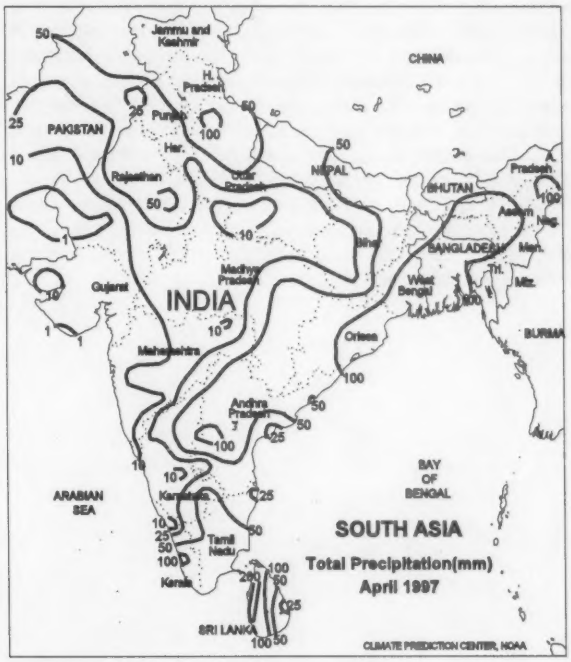


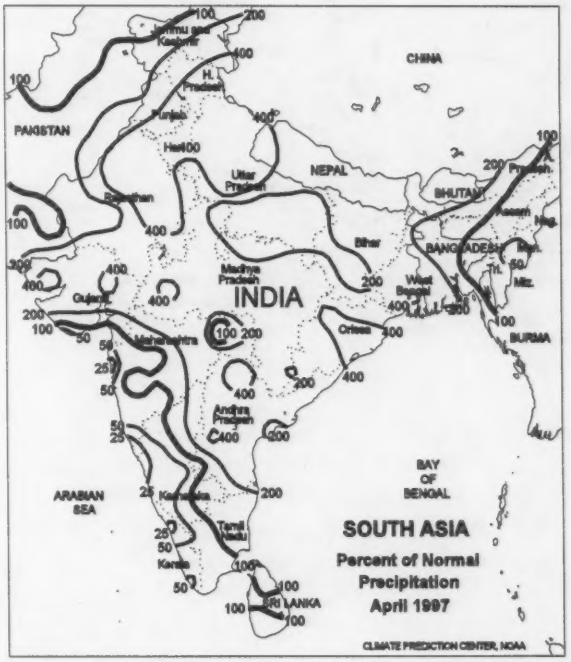
NORTHWEST AFRICA Temperature Anomaly (C)
April 1997

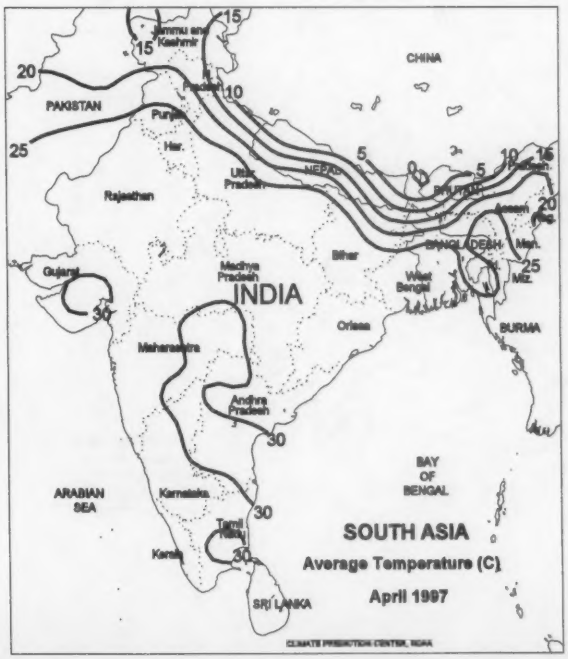


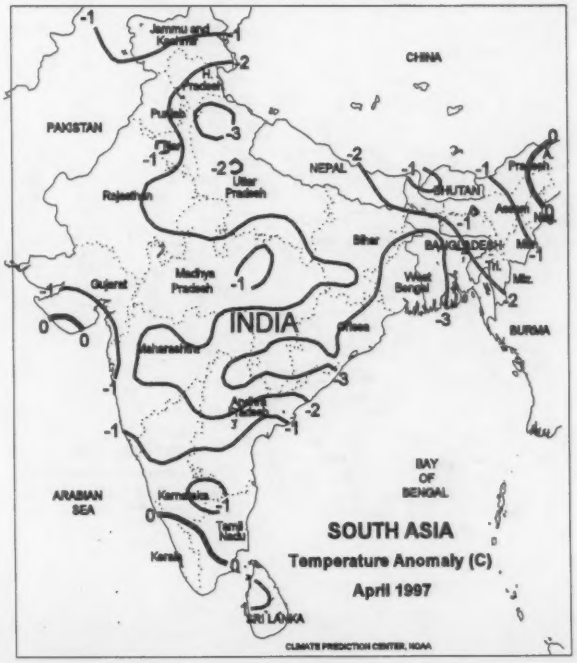
SOUTH ASIA

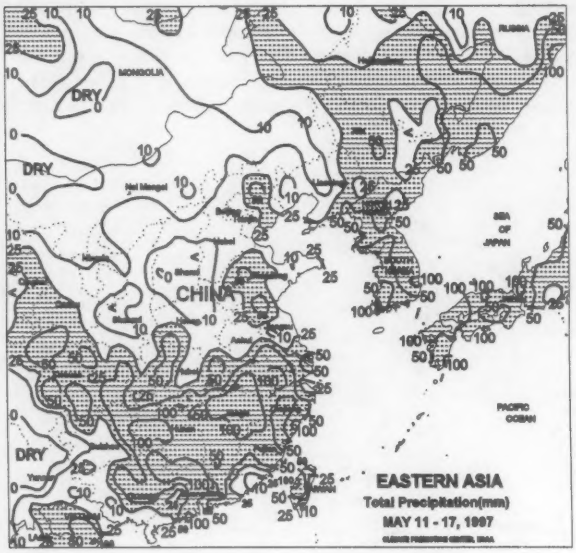
April rainfall was near to above normal over much of the region. Showers were concentrated over northern winter crop areas early in the month, with some reports of localized lodging and hail damage. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C below normal for the month, with relatively few highs exceeding 40 degrees C. Temperatures have recently approached seasonably higher levels but are still generally below normal so far in May, raising some questions about the performance of the upcoming monsoon. A strong tropical cyclone struck Bangladesh on May 19 with sustained winds over 100 knots. More information will be provided next week.





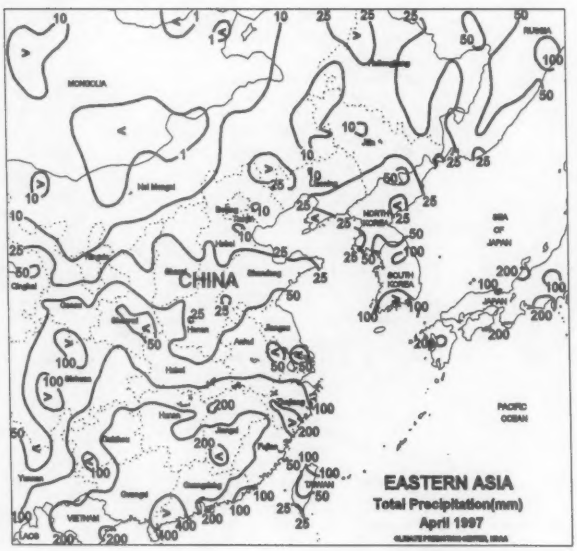


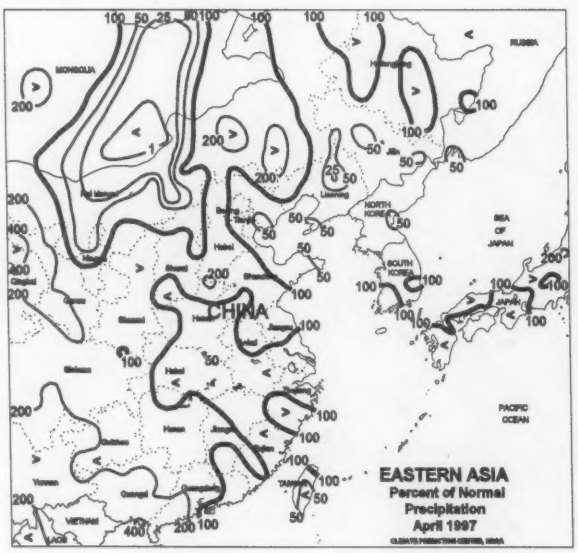


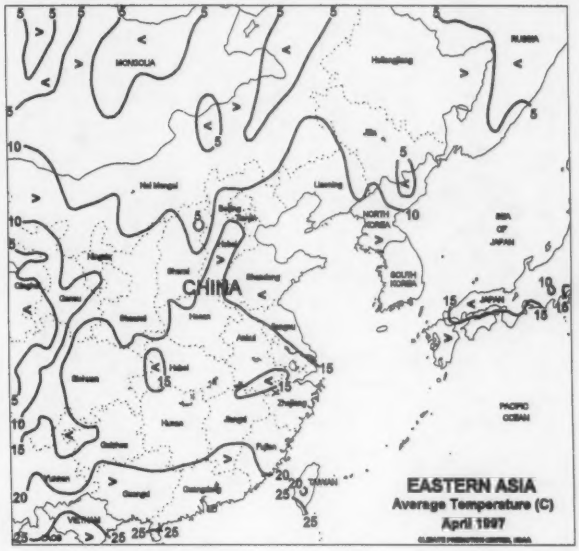


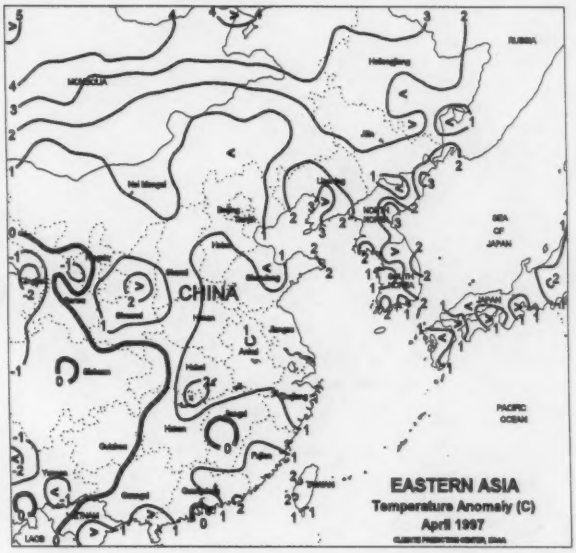
EASTERN ASIA

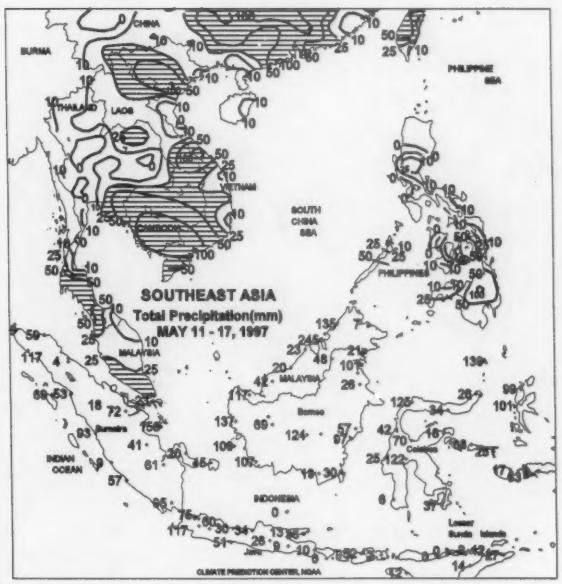
Light to moderate rain (5-45 mm) fell across most of the North China Plain, maintaining moisture for reproductive to filling winter wheat. The moisture also benefited germinating corn, soybean, and cotton. In Manchuria, rain (10-30 mm) aided germinating spring wheat and increased topsoil moisture for soybean and corn planting. Widespread showers (25-75 mm) covered southern China (from the Yangtze Valley southward), maintaining favorable irrigation supplies, but slowing winter grain and oilseed harvesting. However, scattered heavier amounts (greater than 100 mm) caused some flooding. Widespread rain (25-100 mm) also maintained rice irrigation supplies across the Korean Peninsula and Japan. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across China and near normal in the North China Plain. During April, cloudiness associated with above-normal rainfall slowed early rice development across southwestern China. Sunnier weather in early May helped to promote growth. Near- to above-normal monthly rainfall aided winter wheat and summer crops in the North China Plain. Below-normal April rainfall reduced planting moisture for spring wheat in Manchuria.





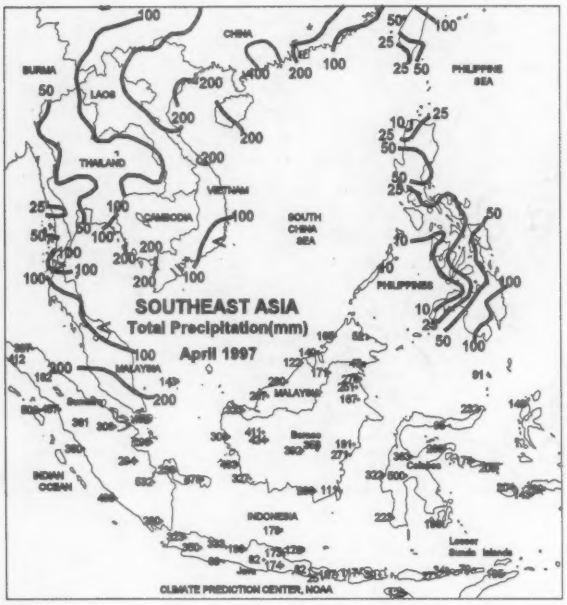




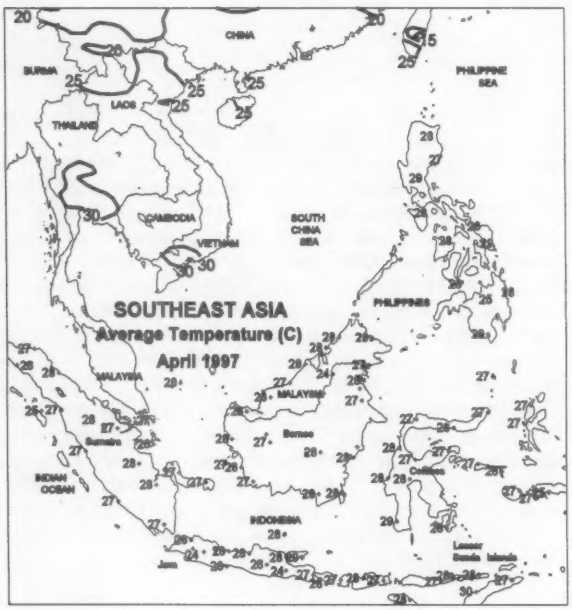


SOUTHEAST ASIA

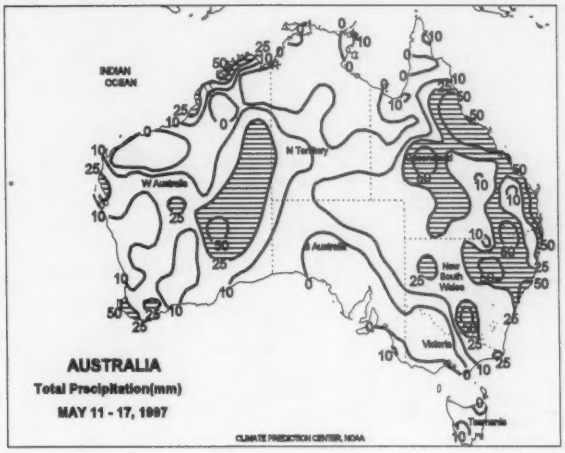
In the Philippines, dry weather (less than 10 mm) continued across western islands, reducing moisture for main-season crops. Only Mindanao received significant rain (40-130 mm). Typically at this time of the year, the southwest monsoon brings rain to the western Philippines. However, this year the monsoon is delayed. Moderate to isolated heavy showers (30-100 mm) slowed main-season rice harvesting in Java, but maintained favorable irrigation supplies for the upcoming second-season crop. Mostly dry weather prevailed across Thailand, with only scattered showers (10-30 mm) reported. Adequate irrigation supplies exist in Thailand, but rain is needed for rainfed crops. Showers (50-110 mm) maintained favorable moisture for rice in northern and southern Vietnam. During April, below-normal rainfall covered most of the Philippines, except for western Luzon and portions of Mindanao. In Java, near- to above-normal April rainfall slowed rice harvesting. Across Indochina, above-normal monthly rainfall increased moisture supplies, but slowed second-crop rice harvesting in Thailand.


SOUTHEAST ASIA
Total Precipitation(mm)
April 1997
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA

SOUTHEAST ASIA
Percent of Normal Precipitation
April 1997
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA

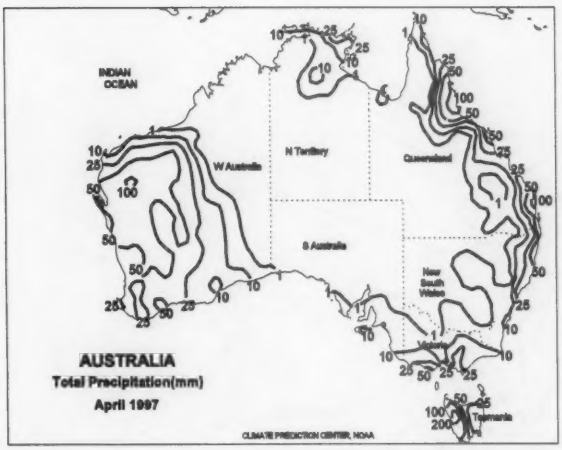

SOUTHEAST ASIA
Average Temperature (C)
April 1997

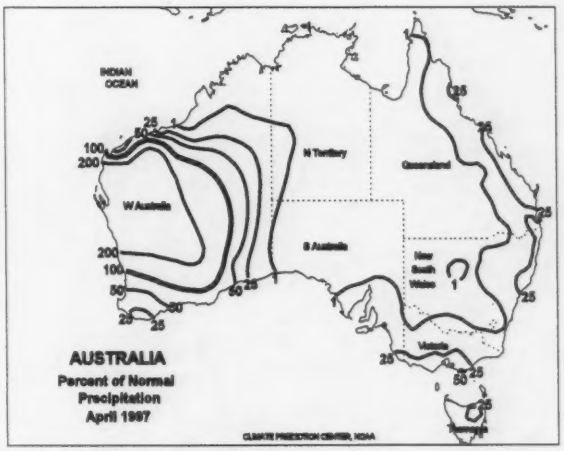
SOUTHEAST ASIA
Temperature Anomaly
April 1997
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA

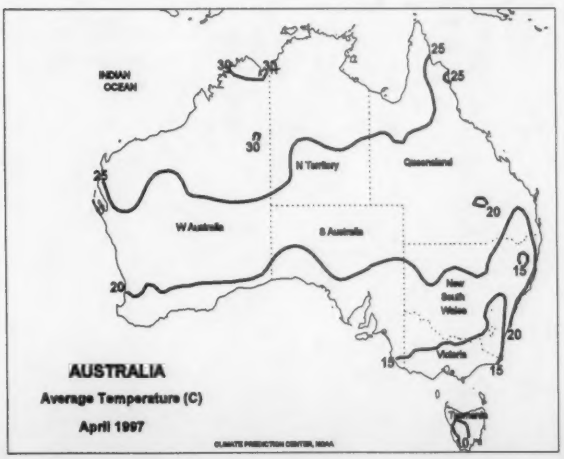


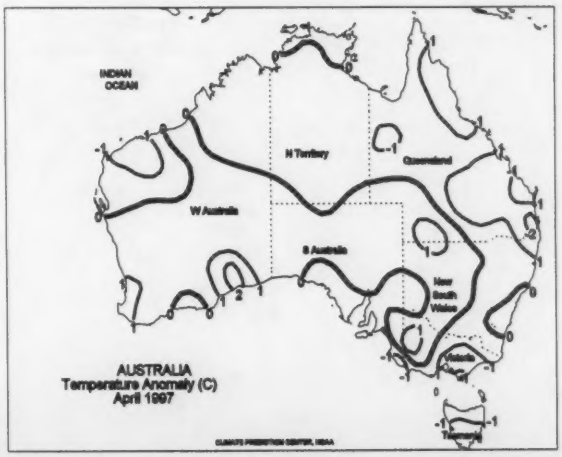
AUSTRALIA

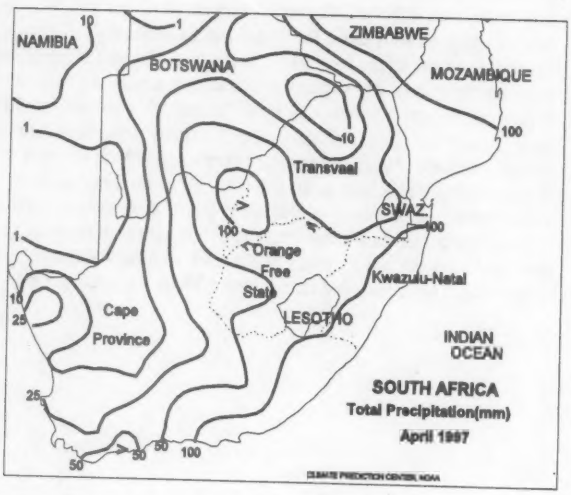
Moderate to heavy rain (10-25 mm or more, exceeding 50 mm at many locations) fell throughout primary agricultural areas of Queensland and New South Wales. The moisture was highly beneficial for winter grain establishment and pastures, although the quality of unharvested cotton may have been affected. Scattered showers (4-42 mm) in Western Australia kept topsoils moist for winter grain germination. However, dryness returned to the southeast (South Australia to southernmost New South Wales), where planting conditions remained poor due to long-term moisture deficits. In New Zealand, dryness persisted in most pasture and grazing areas. In April, rainfall was below normal throughout eastern Australia, favoring cotton and sorghum harvests but drying topsoils for winter grain planting. April rainfall was near to above normal in northern winter grain areas of western Australia. Monthly temperatures averaged near to above normal in the west and near to below normal in much of the east, although above-normal temperatures were recorded from western Victoria to Queensland.

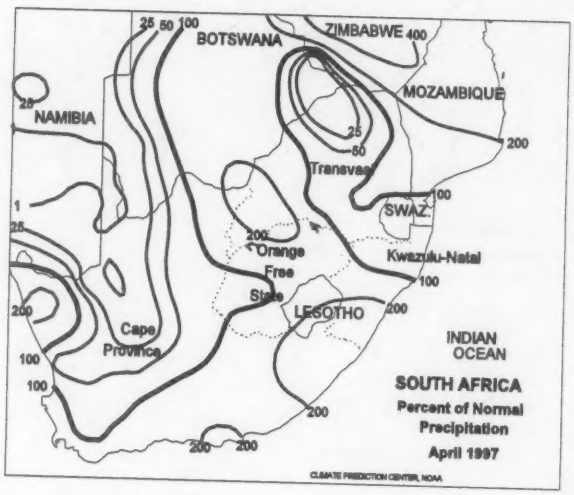









NAMIBIA
BOTSWANA
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE
Transvaal
SWAZ.
Orange Free State
Kwazulu-Natal
LESOTHO
Cape Province
INDIAN OCEAN
SOUTH AFRICA
Total Precipitation(mm)
April 1997


BOTSWANA
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MOZAMBIQUE
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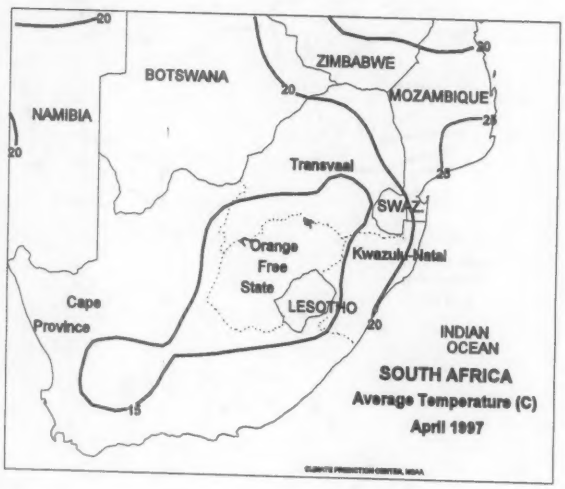
Kwazulu-Natal
LESOTHO
Cape Province
INDIAN OCEAN
SOUTH AFRICA
Percent of Normal Precipitation
April 1997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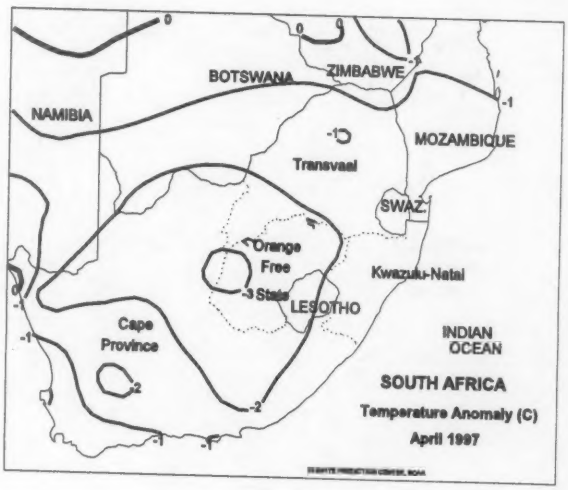
SOUTH AFRICA
Average Temperature (C)
April 1997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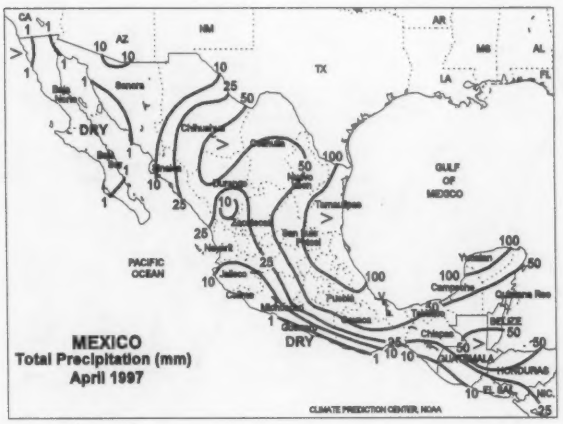
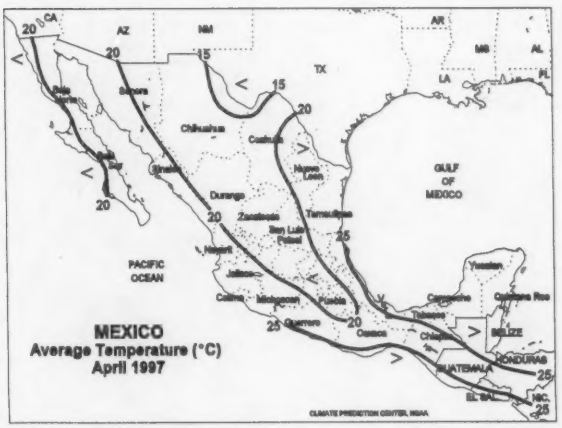
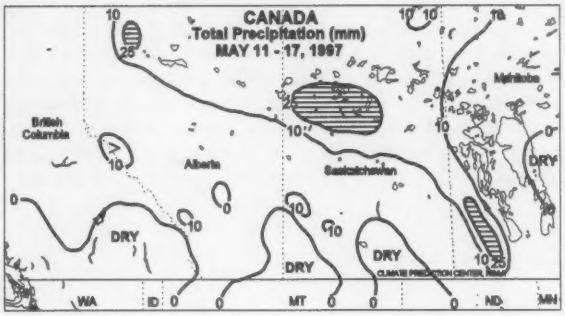
LESOTHO
Cape Province
INDIAN OCEAN
SOUTH AFRICA
Temperature Anomaly (C)
April 1997

MEXICO

Showers (8-45 mm) fell across central and northeastern Mexico, increasing topsoil moisture for corn planting. Typically, corn is planted during May and June throughout Mexico. During April, much-above-normal rain (200-400 percent of normal) fell across most of Mexico, increasing pre-planting moisture. In the northeast, the unseasonable rain helped to increase reservoir levels and favored winter sorghum.

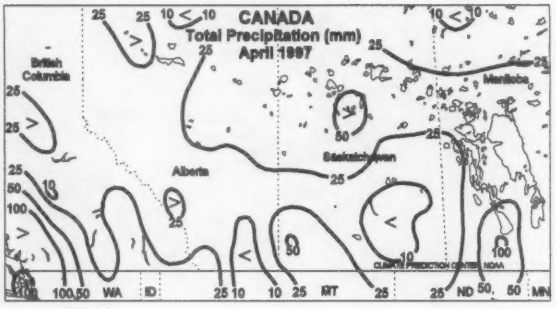


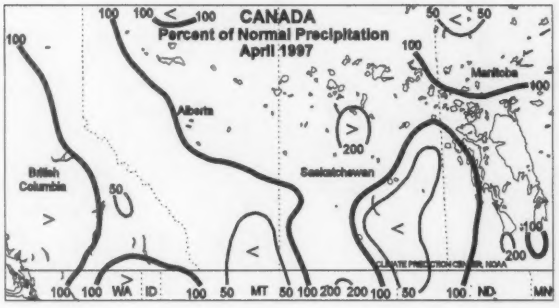


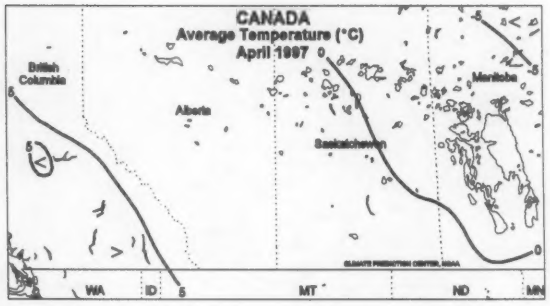


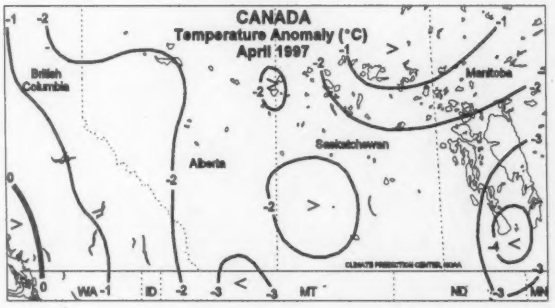
CANADA

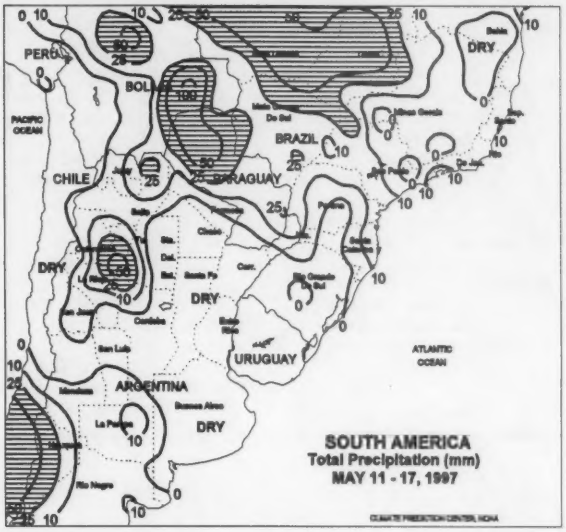
Scattered, mostly light precipitation (5 mm or less, in most areas) fell across the southern prairies, causing only minor fieldwork delays. Plantings in Alberta and Saskatchewan are reportedly running at or above the normal pace. Temperatures averaged near to above normal in the west, helping to warm topsoils for germination. Lingering cold in Manitoba hampered early crop development. In Ontario and Quebec, cool, showery conditions slowed winter wheat development and hindered summer plantings. In April, precipitation was near to above normal in Manitoba, exacerbating the flood situation in the Red River Valley and the Interlake Region. Precipitation was below normal in southern Alberta and over a broad section of southeastern Saskatchewan. April temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal across the Prairies, precluding significant early fieldwork.





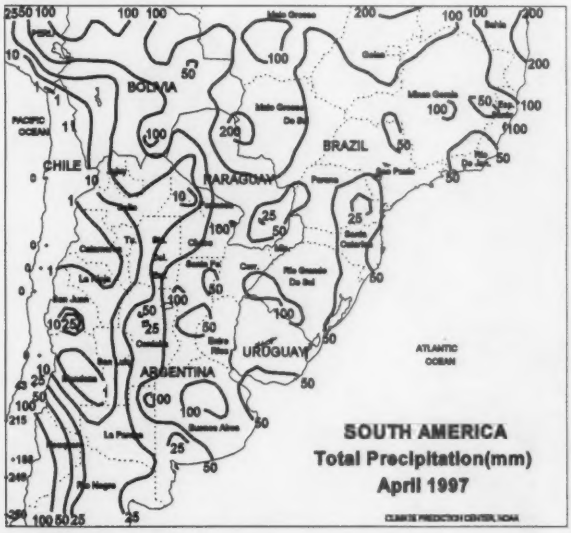


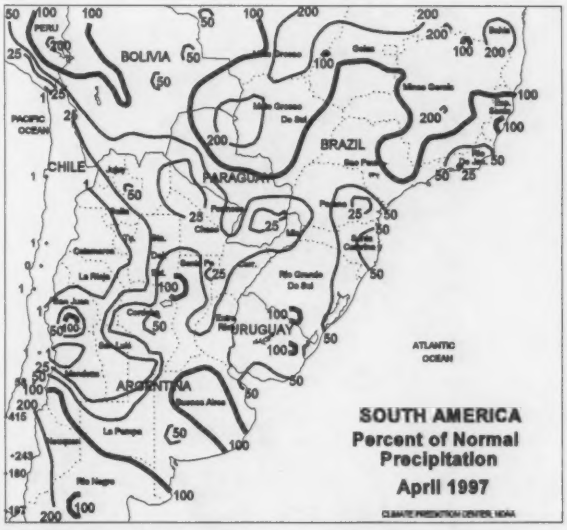


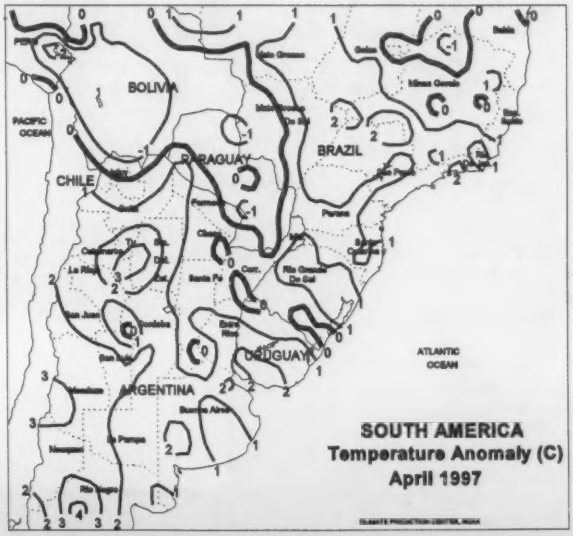


SOUTH AMERICA

Dry weather continued to prevail across central and northern Argentina, favoring summer crop harvesting, but delaying early winter wheat planting. Late in the week, a lone shower was reported (22 mm) in northern La Pampa. In southern Brazil, dry weather favored soybean harvesting in Rio Grande do Sul, but stressed second-crop corn. Light to moderate rain (5-30 mm) fell across northern Parana, Mato Grosso do Sul, and Sao Paulo, increasing topsoil moisture for winter wheat planting. During April, near-normal rainfall helped to stabilize soybean yields in central Argentina. Below-normal rainfall favored soybean maturation and harvesting in most of southern Brazil. Above-normal rainfall slowed soybean harvesting in portions of Mato Grosso and Goias, Brazil.







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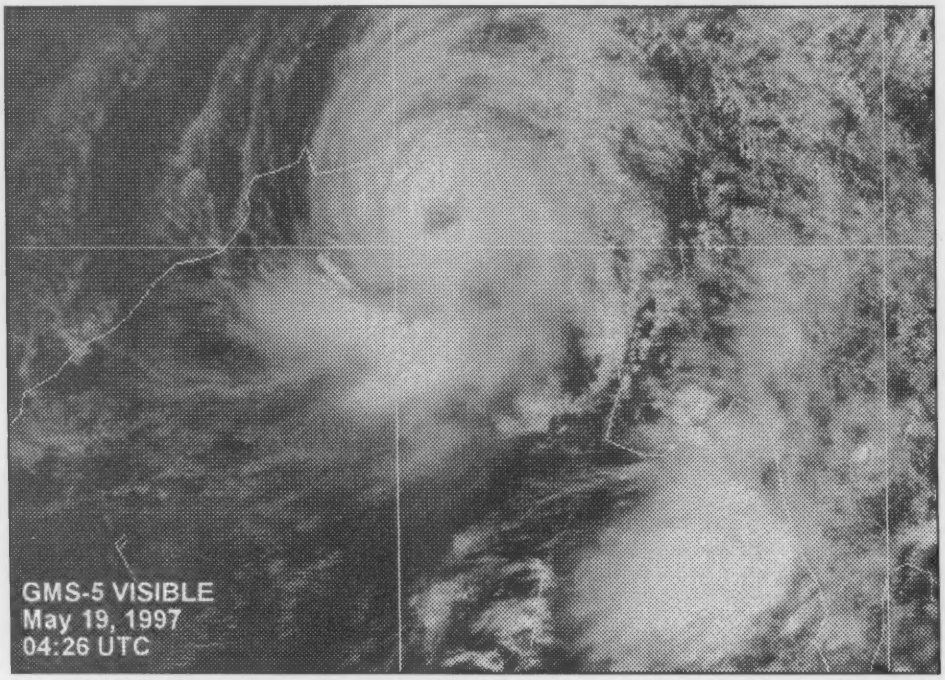

Tropical Cyclone 01B approaches southeastern Bangladesh. The storm crossed the coast at about 16:00 UTC with estimated sustained winds of 115 kt (about 132 mph).

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